

# THE JOURNAL

Friday, July 20, 2001

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**Inside** El Cerrito police announce arrest in July 6 murder [A2]

**Arts** CCCT ready to rumble with 'West Side Story' [C3]


STEVE MASLANKA/STAFF

AT SATURDAY saw Tina Yin, Apple Szostak of the Aquatic Outreach Institute, and Bea O'Keefe of the El Cerrito Planning Commission leading the volunteers who undertook the task of mapping Baxter Creek. The mapping process is part of a program to create an atlas of the county's watershed.

## Group effort puts Baxter Creek on the map

By J.R. Deaton

STAFF WRITER

EL CERRITO — Three teams of volunteers from Friends of Baxter Creek spent last Saturday using global positioning system (GPS) technology to map portions of Baxter Creek and collect data. During the morning and afternoon volunteers mapped and mapped the section of Baxter Creek that flows through Canyon Trail Park on its way to the Bay.

The team collected data on vegetation, another on channel location and bank composition. The team noted 30-foot intervals between "point features" — any noteworthy natural or man-made item such as bridges, bank undercuts, rocky cover, tributaries, invertebrates and debris jams.

The information the volun-

teers gathered will be compiled in the county's new watershed atlas being compiled by the Contra Costa County Watershed Forum. The watershed atlas, funded by a CALFED grant, will eventually contain maps and layers of data on all the county's watersheds.

"It preserves a natural environment in an urban setting and it provides habitat," said volunteer Beatrice O'Keefe when asked about the value of urban

creeks. O'Keefe, who is on the El Cerrito Planning Commission and is a director of the Stege Sanitary District, was working on the "vegetation team" last Saturday. She said Stege will use information in the watershed atlas to help prevent sewer overflows into the creeks.

"We're collecting data using GIS and GPS technology — geographic information systems and global positioning systems — to map our creeks, because for

a lot of our creeks we don't have accurate information about them," said Tina Yin of the watershed forum. "We want to collect data in the field so we can build it into the GIS database." Yin said that all volunteers in the watershed atlas project will use consistent protocols to ensure validity. "There are creek groups all over the county and if everyone uses the same protocols then we can begin to compare our creeks."

### AT CANYON TRAIL PARK

Tina Yin, left, an intern with the Contra Costa County Watershed Forum, gives Peter Loubal of El Cerrito a few pointers on using a GPS (global positioning system) device for mapping geographic areas.

STEVE MASLANKA/STAFF



## Only 1 incumbent candidate certain for November

■ Gina Brusatori says she will run again, Larry Damon says he won't

By J.R. Deaton

STAFF WRITER

EL CERRITO — Three City Council posts will be decided by the voters this November and there is a possibility voters will see only one incumbent on the ballot. Mayor Larry Damon confirmed he will not seek reelection; Councilwoman Gina Brusatori will indeed seek another term and Councilman Mark Friedman is undecided.

The nomination period to run for City Council opened this week and runs at least through Aug. 10. The term is for three years which will put El Cerrito on an even-year election cycle.

City Clerk Linda Giddings said that if an incumbent does not run the filing period extends to Aug. 15 for non-incumbents.

Damon said he has chosen not to run because he has accomplished the things he set out to accomplish and because he wants to spend more time with his family.

"When I ran four years ago there were quite a number of things that I wanted to accomplish and they've either been done or are in progress," Damon said earlier this week. "There is a great sense of accomplishment, but with the sense of accomplishment also is reduced incentive."

Damon said modern management practices have been

See CANDIDATES, Page A9

## Gardeners make a plea for Village space

By Matt Petersen

STAFF WRITER

ALBANY — A report that calls for using 25 percent of the land at Lower Cordoncres Creek for a set of ball fields was given the go ahead Monday by the City Council, but not without some controversy.

Youth sports facilities were the main topic in last year's council elections, and the effort to secure permanent space at University Village in an agreement with UC Berkeley is one result.

But another group doesn't want to be trampled in the process.

The 3-acre layout is currently inhabited by the University Village Community Garden, which provides gardening plots to some 80 residents living in the Village.

In 1996, Albany voted to pass Measure R, which gave the city the freedom to levy assessments for open space, recreational playfields and creek restoration (the average single-family residence is assessed \$69, according to the city). On July 2, council accepted an engineer's report proposing plans to build fields at the site.

If those plans are set forth and the fields are built, certain gar-

### CELEBRATION

Village Community Garden celebration at University Village is July 28. The community-organized event will feature activities for kids, music and food as well as a garden competition. Event starts at 2 p.m., judging starts at 3 p.m.

dens will have to be moved to various, smaller plots throughout the Village courtyards.

"What you're being asked to do is approve this report," city community development director Ann Chaney told the board.

A few concerned village residents who maintain plots in the gardens got up to speak in front of the council on behalf of the land they consider a sanctuary.

"You approve of the ballfields, yet they are placed on the Village Community Gardens," said garden manager Bart Alexander. "I urge you to do your best to preserve the gardens and make space available for people to garden."

According to Alexander, planting at the site has gone back to

See GARDENERS, Page A10

## El Cerrito debates city's reputation

■ The aftermath of the Mill & Lumber process has spurred a secondary discussion

By J.R. Deaton

STAFF WRITER

EL CERRITO — Last week's City Council approval of the Mill & Lumber project continues to cause comment around town, particularly about what image the whole process gives the city. After a 15-month process and numerous meetings and presentations the controversial housing and commercial project was approved July 11 by a 4-1 council vote.

Supporters of the project say it will be a quality addition to the city, while critics say it will end up costing the city money, did not include enough commercial space and sets an unwanted precedent. Some also say that El Cerrito is getting a reputation as a difficult "anti-development" city.

"I came to the meeting, having read all the materials, prepared to discuss the project and was prepared to vote for parcels one, three and four as being appropriate," said Councilwoman Kathleen Perka, who voted against the project. "I wanted to discuss the possibilities, especially the possibility as brought up by (Councilwoman Gina Brusatori) regarding city offices, even if only on a temporary basis, for parcel two. I think if we had been able to really discuss adding 10 to 20,000 square feet of office and commercial on parcel two it would have made a great project," Perka said earlier this week.

Parcel two is site between Kearney Street and the BART tracks and north of Schmidt Lane. "I could support three-fourths of the project," Perka said. "I supported the mitigated negative declaration with some changes."

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NIGHT RIDDER

INFORMATION FOR LIFE



# Arrest made in El Cerrito murder

STAFF REPORT

The El Cerrito Police Department yesterday reported the arrest of a suspect in the July 6 stabbing death of 22-year-old Rogelio G. DeChavez.

The suspect was identified as Brian A. Misquez, 22, of Antioch, who was taken into custody by the Tigard, Ore. Police Department on July 18. On July 17 El Cerrito police had issued a warrant for the arrest of Misquez for

homicide and car-jacking.

Misquez was taken into custody and transported to the Washington County Jail in Oregon. Detectives from the El Cerrito Police Department are going to Oregon to interview Misquez.

Dechavez's sister found his body shortly after 8 p.m. on July 6 in the apartment they shared on Waldo Avenue. He had died of stab wounds to the neck, chest and abdomen, a Contra Costa

County Coroner's spokesman said.

Dechavez and his sister had lived upstairs in the five-apartment building for about two years, according to a neighbor.

Police ask anyone with information or inquiries about the case to call El Cerrito Police Commander Daniel J. Hurley, Department 510-215-4424 or Sgt. Wayne D. Mann, 510-215-4423.

(1247 Marin Ave.) in the Edith Stone Room. For more information call Lucy Fields, 510-626-8752.

## Restore Cerrito Creek

Join Friends of Five Creeks in removing garbage and invasive weeds preparing to restore lower Cerrito Creek. 10 am Saturday, July 21. Bring work gloves and clippers or weeding tools if you have them. Meet at Creekside Park (south end of Santa Clara or Belmont Street), El Cerrito. 510 848 9358, f5creeks@aol.com, www.fivecreeks.org.

## Basketball Jones Camps

The sixth annual Basketball Jones Hoop Camps take place July 23-27 at Pinole Valley High School, 2600 Pinole Valley Road in Pinole. The camp runs 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day and is open to boys and girls ages 7-15. Camp fee is \$160 for the week. Walk-up registration is available. Register online at www.basketballjonescamps.com, or call 800-348-3803 for an application.

## 'Against the Evil Eye'

Kol Hadash, Northern California Community for Humanistic Judaism Shabbat, will speak Friday, July 27, 7:30 p.m. at the Albany Community Center, 1249 Marin Ave. in Albany, on "Against the Evil Eye: Magic and Folk Beliefs in Jewish Tradition," presented by Rose Levine, chairperson of the decent program, Magnes Museum, Berkeley. Info: KolHadash@aol.com

## SF Improv at Eclectica

SF Improv is performing at Café Eclectica, 1309 Solano Ave. in Albany on Saturday, July 28 at 8 p.m. Have a night cap along with some madcap improvised comedy and musical theater, created on the spot by your suggestions. For details on the free improv show call 510-527-2344.

## Great books group

Great Books Reading Discussion Group meets monthly on the third Tuesday of the month from 1-2 p.m. The next meeting is July 17. Topic: Plato's Apology. Location: Albany Library

## WORTH CHECKING OUT

### Hanin at ECDC meeting

El Cerrito City Manager Scott Hanin, has agreed to speak at the July 24 meeting of the El Cerrito Democratic Club. The 8 p.m. discussion of local regional issues from the perspective of the club and city officials follows the general meeting at 7 p.m. at Northminster Presbyterian Church, 545 Ashbury Ave. in El Cerrito. Details: 510-524-4659.

### Cafe Eclectica

Upcoming activities for teens at Cafe Eclectica, 1309 Solano Ave. in Albany: Today at 8 p.m., Karaoke Party; Saturday at 8 p.m., Open Mic (all ages welcome to share music, poetry, prose, stories, comedy); Monday at 3:30 p.m., Learn Henna Tattoo and get one, too; Tuesday, 3-6 p.m., Free Pool; Wednesday, 2 p.m.-6 p.m., Free Pool and 5 p.m.-6 p.m., Socratic Circle Discussion (all ages welcome to discuss philosophy and world issues); Friday at 8 p.m. free movie: Bruce Lee in "Enter the Dragon"; Saturday, July 28, 8 p.m. S.F. Improv (all ages welcome). Details: 510-527-2344.

# Classic/custom car show Aug. 12 at GGF

For the last two years, the Chamber has had to abandon the car show that had been an annual event for the previous seven years. New trees were planted on the Key Route strip, which was where the cars were displayed. The city didn't want cars to park there but there was no alternative until Mr. Peter Tunney volunteered Golden Gate Fields north parking lot. Voila! A new venue was born.

This will be a People's Choice car show. That means that all of us can vote for our favorite cars in each category. There will be other awards like the Mayor and Chamber's award to name a few. Should

ROXANNE WILEY  
Albany Chamber

be great fun.

Our sponsors have been very generous with time and money to reestablish this show to the super annual event it used to be. The Waste Management people, Albany Ford/Subaru, Albany Bowl, Steve's Auto Care, Hills Newspapers, Golden Gate Fields and the Contra Costa Times have all contributed to the success of this event.

There will be cars of every size, shape and color and vintage. The event is open to the

public and starts at 10:30 a.m.

If you are interested in showing a car call the Chamber at 510-525-1771 and an entry form will be sent to you.

## Albany High School Booster Club

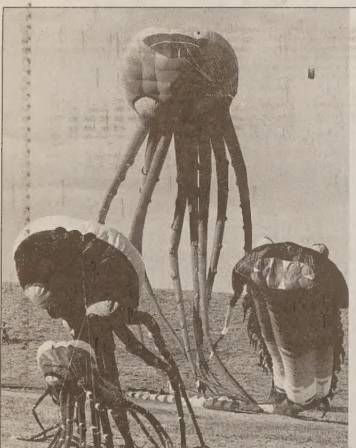
All sorts of things are happening with the Booster Club. It is sponsoring a Wall of Honor in the main hallway of the new school building. It will consist of 5-inch metallic paws, which can be purchased from \$100 to \$300.

Come by the Chamber and get a form for your pay donation. Also, the Booster Club has AHS shirts and hats for sale at the Chamber office.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

## Octopi will take to the sky

Colorful kites of every style imaginable will be floating on the stiff Bay breeze when the 16th annual Berkeley Kite Festival and West Coast Kite Championships returns to Cesar Chavez Park at the Berkeley Marina from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. on July 28 and 29. The free event, includes free candy drops and free kite making both days. For details visit online at www.HighlineKites.com or call 510-235-5483.



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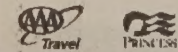
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## POLICE REPORTS

# Arrest made in middle school vandalism

By K. Osborn  
CORRESPONDENT

**ALBANY** — On the morning of July 6 a resident on the 700 block of Taft Street reported that thieves had stolen her new blue/gray 21-speed Marin bike off the balcony of her apartment. There were no witnesses.

On the night of July 6 an employee at the Albany Pool reported that during the day someone broke into the pool office. The next day the employee found juveniles in the office. She got their names and they departed.

On the morning of July 7 a resident on the 800 block of Washington Avenue reported that during the night someone prowled through her unlocked silver '00 Honda Civic. There were no witnesses.

On the morning of July 7 a resident on the 700 block of Adams Street reported that during the night thieves broke into their red '90 Toyota Camry. There were no witnesses.

At about 10:15 a.m. on July 7 a resident on the 700 block of Neilson Street reported that thieves had stolen her red '91 Toyota Tercel. There were no witnesses.

At about noon on July 7 officers located a green '88 Volkswagen on the 900 block of San Pablo Avenue that had been reported as stolen out of Alameda. It had two parking tickets on it. The owner was notified.

On the afternoon of July 7 a resident on the 900 block of Cerrito Street reported that during the previous night thieves had broken into his black '95 Toyota 4-runner. Another resident on the 700 block of Cerrito Street reported his white '00 Honda broken into. There were no witnesses in either incident.

On the evening of July 7 a resident on the 900 block of Madison Street reported that thieves stole scooters off his porch. Neighbors reported seeing subjects heading toward the UC Village.

On the evening of July 7 officers responded to a request for assistance at the Golden Gate Fields Club House because a patron was causing a disturbance and refusing to leave. Officers contacted the Berkeley man and arrested him for disorderly conduct. He was cited and held to be released when sober.

On the night of July 7 there were several reports of juveniles driving recklessly in a blue and black Ford Mustang in the area of Brighton and Evelyn avenues. Officers were unable to locate the vehicle.

On the night of July 8 officers responded to the 1100 block of Stannage Avenue on reports of a car thief being detained by a victim. Officers learned that the 43-year-old Berkeley man had stolen the white '94 Toyota Camry but had returned with it

later. A check found that the car had a felony warrant out of Contra Costa County. He was arrested, cited and transported to Santa Rita jail.

On the morning of July 7 a resident on the 900 block of Solano Avenue reported that thieves broke into her black '94 Toyota Camry over the weekend. There were no witnesses.

On the morning of July 7 the Contra Costa County Sheriff's Department reported finding a brown '90 Honda Accord reported as stolen from The car was not damaged and they did not have any witnesses today. The owner was notified.

At about 10:30 a.m. on July 7 10 officers responded to the 1000 block of Brighton Avenue on reports of someone blowing up a toilet. Officers contacted the 27-year-old Albany boy and arrested him for vandalism and using explosive devices. He was cited and released to his parents with a notice to appear.

On the evening of July 7 officers stopped a red '98 Honda for a vehicle code violation in Buchanan Street. The driver, 27-year-old Richmond man, was arrested for driving without a Driver's License. He was cited and released with a notice to appear.

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See ALBANY, Page A2

# Attempted jet ski theft thwarted

By J.R. Deaton  
STAFF WRITER

**EL CERRITO** — On July 15 at 4:20 a.m. police received a report of auto burglary in the 11800 block of San Pablo Avenue. A witness had seen a man fleeing the scene in a vehicle which was subsequently stopped by police on Conlon Avenue near Kearney Street. The suspect is a 21 year old Oakland resident who was arrested for investigation of auto burglary and later released pending further investigation.

On July 13 at 4:40 p.m. two women tried to cash a forged check at the Mechanics Bank on San Pablo Avenue. They drove a stolen 1990 Ford Bronco to the bank. The suspects were residents of Oakland — one was 26 years-old, the other was 41 years old. The two unfortunates were arrested for check forgery and possession of stolen property and taken to county jail.

On July 13 at 11:35 p.m. police stopped a vehicle for a traffic violation in the 11700 block of San Pablo Avenue. A 42-year-old man in the vehicle, a Richmond resident, was found to be in possession of a suspected "crack pipe" and suspected controlled substance. The man was arrested then released pending further investigation.

On July 12 at 4:20 a.m. police received a report that two men were pushing a trailer carrying two "jet ski" watercraft down the 5400 block of Hillside Avenue. Police were able to catch one of the would-be jet skiers in the 5300 block of Rosalind Avenue. The second suspect could not be located. The detained suspect, a 32-year-old Richmond man, was arrested for motor vehicle theft and possession of stolen property.

On July 11 at 7:50 a.m. a Target Store employee was detained for attempted shoplifting. The 47-year-old employee, a Vallejo man, had reportedly concealed \$16 worth of store merchandise in his shirt and tried to take it home with him as his shift ended. Store security detained the suspect and police were summoned. The man was arrested for petty theft with prior theft/felony convictions and taken to county jail in Martinez.

On June 27 at 1:15 a.m., near the intersection of Carlson Boulevard and Central Avenue, a 25 year-old El Cerrito man was found by police to be in possession of a suspected "meth pipe" suspected methamphetamine and eight grams of marijuana.

On June 26 just before 11 p.m. an unknown suspect stole a woman's purse from an attended Stockton Avenue office. The thief took the wallet and then left the purse in the man's property loss was estimated at \$80.

On June 23 at 2:10 a.m. someone tried to steal a Honda Civic parked in the 6500 block Barrett Avenue. The car's alarm system was activated and the would-be thief fled the scene.

On July 17 at about 10 p.m., officers responded to a report of an assault and battery at a residence in the 900 block of Liberty Street. Officers contacted by a woman who reported that she was physically assaulted by her spouse during a domestic dispute. The victim sustained minor injuries and declined any medical treatment.

The 52-year-old male suspect was arrested for Corporal Incest to Spouse and taken to the Detention Facility in Martinez.

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P.O. Box 1624, El Cerrito, CA 94530 • 510-243-3575  
Published every Friday • Office hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays

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Chris Treadway, editor

Subscriptions are \$30 per year if carrier-delivered within the Journal's circulation area. Mail subscriptions within the United States are \$100 per year. To subscribe or report a delivery problem call 800-598-4637.

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All items for publication should reach us 10 days in advance of publication and may be mailed, faxed or e-mailed.

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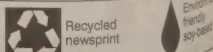
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# Marin School parents caught in care dilemma

Parents to expand after school care to Marin are caught while the district tries to see if it works locally.

By Matt Petersen  
STAFF WRITER

**ALBANY** — Up to 40 Marin County School parents could be asked to do some last minute scrambling for after school care when the school board was unexpectedly expanding the Albany Center to the school Thursday.

Board President Marsha Skinner moved to reconvene on Wednesday at a later date after sensing that the board could be split on the matter (the board is currently seating four directors with the resignation of Associates). According to Superintendent Walter Wallace, the issue will be resolved at the board's Aug. 2 meeting.

In the meantime, schools Superintendent Gary Mills, along with Wallace and children's center director Darryl Hanson, will be working their plans to increase those saying the K-3 program's financial stability. As of now, the \$40,000-a-year program is funded through state grants and fees paid by parents, but does not require money from the district's general budget. But some skepticism on the part of the school board could be a problem without an increase in COLA (cost of living allowance) expenditures from the district.

The board was not satisfied with the in-depth financial assessment looked at another year out of the next school year, said Wallace. "Reworking the pressure on to get a matter resolved as quickly as possible."

Quickly is exactly what Marin County parents want, after being informed by the school faculty administration at the end of the last school year that there would be an on-site after school program at Marin. If expansion turned down, the 40 working families (some single parent) committed to the program would be given the alternative of sending their children to the after school center on campus. Unlike the Y, the Marin children's center offers credentialed teachers that assist students in various activities and curriculum.

The Albany Children's Center has been situated in the same building at the Oceanview site since 1943 that was founded on several funds so women could work in support of the war effort. For the years it has been a very successful program, providing for AUSS students on a sliding scale. Hanson insists that no

parent is denied service solely because of inability to pay. What Hanson and company may have to do to answer the financial questions of the board is to raise the fees of the program in order for it to fly. Also, the Y center pays rent to the district while the children's center does not.

"I'm amazed that (the district) would put a community program ahead of a school program," said Hanson. "Not only is our program not on the general budget ... we've shown the opportunity to run in the black much superior than other schools. We're a good program."

According to Hanson, the Alameda school district's program is setting back its general fund by \$160,000 and Hayward's costs the budget over \$100,000.

Hanson and Wallace hope to convince the board in their Aug. 2 presentation of the re-worked assessment that, not only will the program not dip into the general fund, the expansion will bring an increase in COLA revenue as well.

In the meantime, parents, many of whom were counting on enrolling their youngsters in a stable, on-site environment, surrounded by veteran teachers are stuck in limbo. Many of the staff members at the children's center have been there for more than 30 years according to Hanson.

"I've been so happy, it's like an extended family," said Belinda Foland whose daughter will be entering kindergarten at Marin next year and has been with the center for the last two years at Oceanview.

"I needed something that was going to be reliable and enriching for my child and I can honestly say that it's been all of that."

Foland was quick to add that she doesn't have anything against the YMCA program, but that she prefers the children's center mostly because of the on-site care. Attending the Y program would require her daughter to walk across busy Marin Avenue, and that makes Foland uneasy.

Wendy Stephens, another Marin parent, didn't realize until earlier this week that the program at Marin was in peril and she says it's too late in the game for the district to change course after parents have already made plans based on the expansion.

"It's too late, let's not have it be too little as well," she said. "When promises are made you have to deliver."

Board member Skinner knows what it's like to have child care worries and she hopes that the district's hands won't stay tied on the matter.

"I know how hard it is for folks to find day care and I don't want it to go any longer than it needs to, (but) I can't say financially that expanding the program is the right thing to do."

# Clarifying law on punishing underperforming schools

By Suzanne Pardington  
STAFF WRITER

If the 43 schools in Contra Costa and Alameda counties that volunteered for the first round of the state's program for low-performing schools fail to improve this year and next, the state will seize control of them. Local schools in the program include Fairmont and Castro elementary schools, Portola Middle School and El Cerrito High School, all in El Cerrito.

But the state isn't sure what it will do with the power.

This fall, the State Board of Education and Superintendent Delaine Eastin plan to start interpreting the often-ambiguous wording of the 1999 Public Schools Accountability Act that gave them a broad range of possible sanctions to impose.

According to the law, if a school fails to hit its state-mandated growth goals for two years, the state may reassign the principal and must do at least one of the following:

- Allow students to attend any school with available space.
- Allow parents to apply to the Board of Education to found a charter school at the school site.
- Hand management of the school over to a college, university, county office of education or other educational institution.
- Reassign employees.
- Negotiate a new union contract when the existing contract expires.
- Reorganize or close the school.

The state superintendent can also take "any action considered necessary and desirable" against the school district or the school board, including appointing a new district superintendent and suspending the board's authority over the school.

Schools that make "significant progress" in the state's rankings but don't meet their targets both

years may get a third year of funding to try again.

But steps as extreme as closing a school are not likely, state board members said.

"The state has a responsibility to those schools to not just sit by the sidelines," said Reed Hastings, board president. "However, no one thinks the state taking over the school would be very effective. (The question) becomes: What's useful to improving the academic performance of students at these schools?"

Hastings said he would like to make it easier for the school districts to fix the schools, rather than asking the state to step in.

A committee was scheduled to meet Wednesday to come up with a recommendation to the state board on how to revise the 1999 law to make it clear that districts have a responsibility to support the improvement efforts of the schools. There may be additional sanctions or rewards for districts

based on how well they do their jobs.

"It's my own philosophy that without direct support and sustained support from a school district, improvement over time cannot be sustained," said General Davis Jr., chairman of the intervention and sanctions subcommittee of Eastin's task force on implementing the 1999 law.

The board also has to determine what is considered "significant growth" for schools that have not met their goals both years. Schools must make at least a 5 percent gain on the state's ranking system to avoid sanctions. But if a school gets, for example, 4 percent one year and 9 percent the next, it is not clear whether those scores will make the school eligible for another year of funding.

This year, the schools received \$168 per student. Next year, the governor wants to spend \$200 per student in the program.

## Dinner/dance will raise funds for injured student's care

Workers at the El Cerrito Post Office are responding to a tragedy suffered by one of their colleagues with a fundraising event and are seeking the community's participation.

Eric Adame-Toms, the son of postal employee and El Cerrito APWU Shop Steward Noel Toms, is in a coma in Kaiser Hospital from injuries sustained in a May 15 car collision in Rodeo on his way home from work.

Adame-Toms, 18, was a month away from graduation at John Swett High School.

El Cerrito postal employees are sponsoring two dinner/dance fundraisers at the San Pablo Moose Lodge, 13233 San Pablo Ave. in San Pablo, to help meet the mounting costs of Eric Adame-Toms's injuries.

The event is Aug. 5 from 5-7 p.m. and features letter carrier Jun Simundo and his band. The cost is \$10 per person. Any do-

nations from those who can't make it are also appreciated. Checks should be made out to Eric Adame-Toms, c/o Sanwa Bank, 777 Tennent Ave., Pinole, CA 94564. All funds raised will go to the Toms family.

Details: 510-237-6124.

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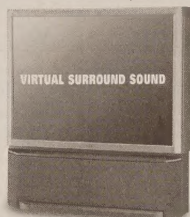
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2-Tuner  
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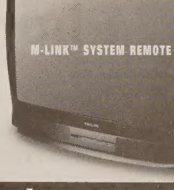
COMPONENT INPUT

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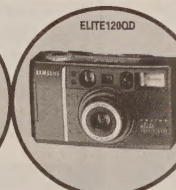
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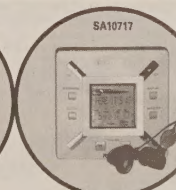
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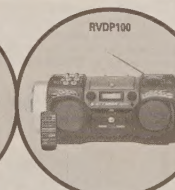
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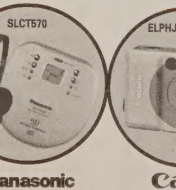
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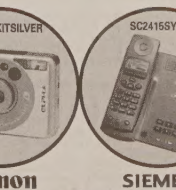
### JVC

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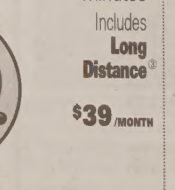
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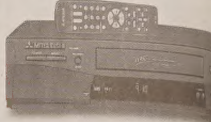
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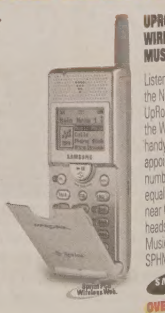
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The Standard Annual Percentage Rate (APR) is 22.9% for accounts that are kept current; otherwise, the default rate of 26.9% APR will be applied to all balances. **GOOD GUYS 84 MONTH FINANCING OFFER:** Good Guys offers financing on purchases of \$399 and up. The Standard Annual Percentage Rate (APR) is 22.9% for accounts that are kept current; otherwise, the default rate of 26.9% APR will be applied to all balances. **GOOD GUYS 96 MONTH FINANCING OFFER:** Good Guys offers financing on purchases of \$399 and up. The Standard Annual Percentage Rate (APR) is 22.9% for accounts that are kept current; otherwise, the default rate of 26.9% APR will be applied to all balances. **GOOD GUYS 108 MONTH FINANCING OFFER:** Good Guys offers financing on purchases of \$399 and up. 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The Standard Annual Percentage Rate (APR) is 22.9% for accounts that are kept current; otherwise, the default rate of 26.9% APR will be applied to all balances. **GOOD GUYS 228 MONTH FINANCING OFFER:** Good Guys offers financing on purchases of \$399 and up. The Standard Annual Percentage Rate (APR) is 22.9% for accounts that are kept current; otherwise, the default rate of 26.9% APR will be applied to all balances. **GOOD GUYS 240 MONTH FINANCING OFFER:** Good Guys offers financing on purchases of \$399 and up. The Standard Annual Percentage Rate (APR) is 22.9% for accounts that are kept current; otherwise, the default rate of 26.9% APR will be applied to all balances. **GOOD GUYS 252 MONTH FINANCING OFFER:** Good Guys offers financing on purchases of \$399 and up. 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# Opinion

## FROM THE MAYOR'S DESK

### Public has an important role in helping city reach its goals

By Allan Maris  
MAYOR OF ALBANY

On Monday, June 11, the City Council and staff of the City of Albany held an eight-hour public hearing to set goals for the next three years. After several hours of discussion in small groups and within the group at large led by facilitator, Marilyn Snyder, a vision statement and four primary goals were established. Each goal was assigned five objectives for the next six months. Progress on the objectives will be reviewed monthly by the council, who will establish new six-month objectives on Dec. 5.

The Vision Statement is: "The City of Albany will be economically vibrant, fiscally sound and community focused."

The City of Albany Goals are: improve customer service, improve city facilities and infrastructure, increase and broaden revenues, and attract and maintain professional staff.

This goal-setting session was a wonderful opportunity for your City Council and city staff people to coordinate our efforts in meeting the goals for our city and to learn to appreciate the commitment that each of us makes for the welfare of our city.

On July 9 the City Council approved the city's budget for June 2001-02. This year's general fund operating budget is \$11.4 million and exceeds last years budget of \$10.2 million by 11 percent. The budget is 2 percent higher than the five-year budget projection of 1998, reflecting greater than expected costs of energy and insurance. The largest department budget increases occurred in Police (\$320,000), Fire and EMS (\$270,000), Recreation and Community Services (\$180,000), City Administration (\$145,000) and Non-Departmental (\$335,000). The estimated increase in energy costs of \$125,000 appears in the Non-Departmental budget. The General Fund balance (reserve fund) is \$2.1 million. A portion of this reserve is needed for emergencies and the city's unfunded liabilities. In addition the City of Albany will spend \$6.9 million from other funds and grants for capital improvement projects including Memorial Park improvements (\$1.1 million) and the East Shore Highway Extension to Buchanan Street (\$4.1 million).

## MAYOR'S OFFICE HOURS

Albany Mayor Allan Maris, will be having office hours at the Café Eclectica, 1309 Solano Ave., on Saturday, July 21, from 9-11 a.m. and Wednesday, Aug. 6, from 7-9 p.m.

This is an opportunity for adults and young people to visit the year-old teen café and express their views on the state of the city. Maris will also have information and questions for the public.

We continue to seek additional funding for the following projects and services: New Pierce Street Park (\$1 million), UC Village sports fields relocation (\$1 million), earthquake retrofit of the Fire and Police Station (\$2 million), traffic safety projects (\$2 million), expanding library services from 37 to 60 hours per week (\$300,000/year).

To acquire the needed funds we are also urging the state to return the \$3 million in property taxes it has taken since 1991 and to stop taking the \$500,000 they take each year. Did you know that only about 18 percent of your property taxes go to your city? If you are concerned, please write to your state legislators and say that you wish to have these projects funded and that you are tired of having your city robbed by the State of California.

Several cities in the Bay Area have a community fund. I encourage interested persons to form the Board of Directors of an Albany Community Fund that could support special city projects in the arts, park facilities, youth and senior services. I would be happy to help, and The East Bay Community Fund is available to advise with the establishment of the fund.

In closing I invite you to attend my office hours on Saturday morning, July 11 from 9 to 11 a.m. at Café Eclectica, 1309 Solano Ave. at Pomona Avenue. This is an opportunity for adults and youth to visit our year-old teen café and express your views on the state of the city. I will also have information and questions for you. I hope to see then or again on Wednesday evening, Aug. 8 from 7 to 9 p.m. at the same place for additional office hours.

## VIEWPOINT

### El Cerrito: The city that hates trees?

By Rosemary Loubal

Last week the city cut down eight large trees in Canyon Trail Park, plus many smaller trees. A few of them should have been removed, but not till early winter. Several UC experts in plant and insect pathology warned the city that this is the worst time of year to fell trees, since the stumps and debris feed beetles, who then spread to healthy trees. At least 20 mature healthy trees have been destroyed in El Cerrito this year, mostly unnecessarily: 1. All six redbark eucalyptus trees at the club house, yet staff told council only one to three needed to go; 2. All six Monterey pines by the Ohlone

Greenway South of the Plaza BART station, cut even prior to the council being informed, while staff falsely claimed "they dug up the pathway" (possibly only one needed to go); 3. The eight Canyon Trail pines cut last week, in spite of the fact that three months ago the Council asked for a comprehensive tree management plan. This, with only dangerous trees cut immediately. Clearly, this approved motion was not followed.

Since last summer, when previous city manager Gary Pokorny announced his plan to clearcut the top section of Canyon Trail Park, our city has been on a rampage to cut trees.

See TREES, Page C

## HOW TO REACH US

Letters to the editor reflect the opinion of the writer. Letters must include your first and last name, address and daytime phone number. All letters are subject to verification. All letters are subject to editing for brevity and style. Not all letters may be published.

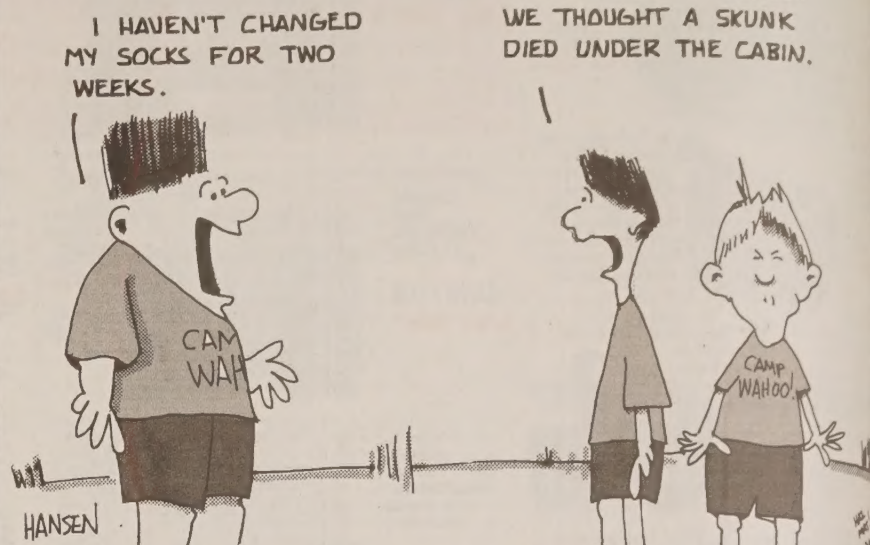
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FAX: 510-644-1735

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## SUMMER CAMP MEANS NO PARENTS

THAT'S GOOD TO KNOW. WE THOUGHT A SKUNK DIED UNDER THE CABIN.



## FROM THE MAYOR'S DESK

### Mill & Lumber vote — perception is not always reality

By Larry Damon  
EL CERRITO MAYOR

On July 11 the City Council passed the El Cerrito Mill & Lumber project on a 4-1 vote. Those who have followed the history of this project might believe that they have learned some lessons and are now positioned to draw some conclusions.

Caution! The first lesson we should learn is not to draw conclusions, at least not hasty ones. Hasty ones like, "El Cerrito is anti-business and anti-development" when alternative explanations are possible. For example, one might conclude that those who aggressively challenged the project or voted against it are anti-business and anti-development. This would be a mistake. Let me explain.

It is true that Councilwoman Perka, after extracting several concessions and inserting more requirements, even then voted "No". This might lead one to conclude that she was playing games or was inherently against development, per se. A more reasonable conclusion, however, might be that she was trying her best to tie up a lot of loose ends. This should be appreciated. Loose ends have a way of unraveling later and causing problems. And as far as being "anti-business" is concerned, how can a person trying to increase the project's commercial element be "anti-business"? Therefore, Perka's no vote on this particular project should NOT be interpreted as a general aversion to new development.

Councilwoman Brusatori's

aggressive challenges are equally open to alternative explanation. True, when the city staff recommended the less arduous Negative Declaration in lieu of a full EIR, Brusatori's "I smell a rat" remark sent a chilling message to the developers. No doubt, the remark alluded to using the Freethy family's substantial influence in El Cerrito.

This influence, however, is derived from years of generosity. Being offended by a developer's effort to capitalize on such generosity seems appropriate. And, while replacing an industrial complex with shops and apartments seemingly justifies a Negative Declaration, it has to be remembered that this was a big project in a prime location. Again, hasty conclusions should be avoided.

Then there was Brusatori's 11th hour suggestion to have an office building on Parcel 2 with a portion serving as an ersatz City Hall. Was this a pre-campaign tactic to justify reversing field and align oneself with something that had garnered wide scale support? Perhaps. But let's not be so quick. It is true that I initiated this idea with the Economic Development Board last November and was met with immediate resistance. The city staff believed it would undermine getting a real City Hall. We didn't have enough people to qualify as an anchor tenant. It required a continuing drain on city funds and the developer was against it. So I didn't press the matter with the council. But maybe I should have and

maybe Brusatori believed it was an idea whose time had come. Unfortunately, it hadn't, but there was no way of knowing this without trying. So she did. And finally, after all was said and done, Brusatori DID vote for the project. So, again, let's not jump to hasty conclusions about an anti-development contingent on the City Council.

And, what about myself? Did I do everything right? Did my belief that giving developers the benefit of the doubt to create a positive negotiating environment afford project opponents the opportunity to question my objectivity? Should I, like some of the others, have made the developers support a burden of proof with all its attendant costs? Indeed, would the project have moved forward without some indication of support? And, wouldn't it be better if such indications came from our Economic Development Board acting as a kind of ombudsman? Did I displace that function by acting on the belief that elected officials have a duty to encourage investment in their community? Did trying to do something worthwhile end up compromising the Mill & Lumber effort?

It is well known that I loaned a Richmond businessman \$50,000 to relocate to El Cerrito and re-open a closed store.

However, I did not know that the second mortgage offered as collateral created a sufficient property interest to violate an obscure section of the Health and Safety Code.

Nor did the city attorney know this. Once it was brought to attention, however, we immediately acted to correct the situation. Formal disclosure was made per the requirements of the code and the collateral re-conveyed back to the borrower. (The financial untrustworthiness of the note made it possible to sell).

Nevertheless, and all claimed altruists aside, this lowered project opponents' opportunity to contend that I should recuse myself and opened the possibility of a ject-defeating 2-2 tie. Legal opinion was otherwise and ject supporters argued that since the violation did not he was immediately corrected was largely technical in nature anyway, recusal on no trivial basis would be nothing more than copping out. I concluded it was best to remain involved and do the job I was elected to do. Wrong conclusion? Good question.

In fact the Mill & Lumber project presented many good questions. Questions like: Is the General Plan sufficient for our development needs? What is an acceptable commercial/housing mix? How do we resolve conflicts between our Planning Commission and Design Review Board? Why is resolution of conflicts the developer's responsibility? Did the developer's munity outreach program really pay dividends or was project doomed to extend

See DAMON, Page A

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### George Miller's dubious legacy

The report on U.S. Rep. George Miller, "Congressman discuss education, energy issues at town hall meeting", by J.R. Deaton in the June 29 Journal reminds me why I have become so disappointed with Miller.

Miller's voting record has earned him an "D-" according to www.betterimmigration.com, an organization monitoring Congress on its response to the floodtide of 1.2 million legal and illegal newcomers each year.

Despite his claim as an environmentalist Miller scuttles any real progress by his support for unsustainable population growth. He boasts an interest in education, but he undermines it by encouraging illegal immigration through new amnesties — thus adding millions to already seriously overcrowded classrooms. And he supports the H-1B program that is importing hundreds of thousands of foreign workers, diminishing opportunities for American kids and shortening careers for older Americans.

The simple fact is that Miller and his cohorts have set an immigration course that according to the U.S. Census Bureau

is driving the U.S. population toward overbillion by the end of the century. This is not the legacy of a real environmentalist.

Tim Aarons  
El Cerrito

### Liberalism using word liberal

Because the word "liberal" is so often used by letter writers to condemn others' opinions, I suggest they consult a dictionary. They will find that they are praising rather than condemning liberals.

Art Schroeder  
El Cerrito

GENERAL MANAGER • RUTH MARICICH

EDITOR • CHRIS TREADWAY

ALBANY • EL CERRITO • KENSINGTON

# THE JOURNAL

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"... were it left to me to decide whether we should have a government without newspapers, or newspapers without a government, I should not hesitate a moment to prefer the latter."

— Thomas Jefferson, 1787



# Next generation prepares to dance like nobody's watching



MARTIN SNAPP  
Snapp Shots

You may be wondering why I haven't written about Gary Condit. The answer is that even though about this story makes me sick. What turns my stomach is the sheer cynicism of the people involved. Condit seems to care about covering his *derriere*. The Democratic defenders who care about is holding his House seat. All his critics seem to care about is taking that seat. All the police seem to care about is protecting their congressional funding. And all we media seem to care about is getting our ratings. So I'm not sure if anyone cares about this missing girl?

I don't know who did what, I don't know who should play when they make the look-alikes, but William H. Macy, Not to role as the weaselly car man in "Fargo" was like a rehearsal.

The only upside to this

whole mess is watching hypocrisy exposed. My favorite revelation comes from Dan Walters of the Sacramento Bee, who said that Condit — who never missed an opportunity to castigate Bill Clinton's morals during the Monica Lewinsky scandal — was so well known for his roaming ways during his days in the California legislature, reporters in Sacramento called him "Gary Condom."

So is it any wonder that I've been writing about young people instead? The more I hang out with them, the more I'm convinced that they are our last, best, perhaps only hope — if we don't louse things up so

badly in the meantime that even they can't fix it. Mind you, our priorities might not be their priorities. We're hung up on things from the past, like entitlements and culture wars — issues that, as the kids would say, are so 20th Century. They look forward to 21st Century issues, like globalization, technological impact and — above all — the environment.

Our duty is to do our best to prepare them to assume these responsibilities — and then get out of their way.

In that spirit, let me wish a fond farewell to Mejia Reese. This Sunday will be her last day at Nabolom Bakery in Berkeley, where she's been serving up cinnamon twists and good cheer to these many months.

Mejia is off to begin her freshman year at San Jose State, which is good news for the Spartans but sad tidings for me. I'll miss her. I'll also miss Elizabeth

Specht, who is off to Notre Dame in a couple of weeks. And Mia Arakaki, who is off to Yale. In fact, I'll miss a whole slew of remarkable young people I've have the honor of meeting this year, from the Cafe Eclectica in Albany to the Leonard J. Waxdeck Birdcage Contest in Piedmont.

So if you don't mind, here's a little last-minute advice from one aging Boomer to all you Millennials who are off to college in the next few weeks. (As the French philosopher La Rochefoucauld said, "Old men are fond of giving good advice to console themselves for no longer being able to set bad examples.")

How I envy you! Four years of nothing to do but drink from the Cup of Knowledge!

My advice is to drink as deeply as you can. Don't use college as a trade school; there'll be time enough for that later. Who cares whether you'll be able to make practical use

of that class in astronomy or art history? If it intrigues you, take it. You'll never have the chance again.

Tip No.2: Don't panic if you get a lousy grade on your first quiz. Some professors do that on purpose; it's their way of saying, "Welcome to the big leagues, kid." Don't worry; you won't flunk out. The admissions committee knew what they were doing when they accepted you.

Tip No.3: Make friends with your professors. I don't mean kiss up to them; I mean really make friends.

Look at it from their point of view. They could be making a lot more money in the private sector, so why are they teaching? Because they fell in love with a subject — be it organic chemistry or French literature — and they're dying to turn people on to it.

So they wait in their office for the students to file in, and what do they hear? The same three questions, over and over

again:

1. "How long does it have to be?"
2. "Can I get an extension?"
3. "Will it be on the final?"

It's enough to break a teacher's heart. But if you, on the other hand, walk in and say, "I don't want anything from you but knowledge," (and mean it!) they'll be forever grateful. And they'll repay the favor by giving you what you asked for: knowledge and — if you're lucky — a little wisdom, too.

And finally, if you can't remember any of the above, just be guided by this advice from a man who was a lot wiser than I am — not to mention a better ballplayer — Satchell Paige:

Work like you don't need the money. Love like you've never been hurt. Dance like nobody's watching.

Phone Martin Snapp at (510) 273-9039 or e-mail him at catman@california.com.

## Albany

FROM PAGE 2

ment reported that her son's car was stolen while parked at the Middle School on the 500 block of Brighton Avenue. There were no witnesses.

On the evening of July 11 officers responded to 545 Pierce Street from a woman that reports from a restraining order of a 29-year-old Albany man, cited him and released him with a Notice to Appear.

At about 7:30 p.m. on July 11 officers contacted a subject living at the front of the Po-Sa-Ton. Officers arrested the 29-year-old Oakland man for being in public. He was cited and released when he was arrested.

At about 1 a.m. on July 12 officers responded to 545 Pierce

St. on reports of a subject unconscious on the floor in the gym area. The 44-year-old Pleasant Hill man was found to be intoxicated. He was arrested, cited and held to be released when sober.

On the afternoon of July 12 officers contacted a 38-year-old El Cerrito man at a business on the 500 block of Cleveland Avenue for suspicious activity. He was arrested for theft, carrying a loaded gun and assault with a deadly weapon. He was cited and released with a Notice to Appear.

At about 4:30 a.m. on July 13 officers stopped a 44-year-old Vallejo man on the 500 block of Taft Street for suspicious activity. He was found to have a No Bail warrant from Fairfield for Failure to Appear. He and his passenger, another Vallejo man, were arrested for possession of drugs, possession of drug paraphernalia, possession of burglary tools and resisting an officer.

They were cited and transported to the Berkeley Marshall's office.

On the afternoon of July 13 officers responded to the 900 block of Fillmore Street on reports of a blue '86 Toyota Camry that had been parked on the street for over two weeks. A check found that the vehicle had been reported as stolen out of Richmond on July 8. It was towed and the owner notified.

On the morning of July 14 a resident on the 1000 block of Cornell Avenue on reports that between 2:30 a.m. and 10 a.m. thieves had stolen her red '97 Accura Legend parked in front of her house. Later that day she reported locating her vehicle down the street from her house.

On the evening of July 14 a resident on the 700 block of Hillside Street reported that thieves had broken into her home.

At about 8 p.m. on July 14 officers responded to reports of

three subjects sitting on a bench on the BART path near Dartmouth Street who were smoking marijuana and urinating in the bushes. Officers contacted the two 20-year-old Richmond men and the 23-year-old San Francisco man and found the 23-year-old man had an outstanding \$5,000 parole violation for DUI. He was arrested, cited and released with a Notice to Appear.

Just before midnight on July 14 officers responded to the 900 block of Pomona Avenue on reports of a subject who had entered a resident's green '94 Ford and was last seen walking toward Solano Avenue. Officers contacted the 39-year-old transient man and found items from the vehicle in his possession. He was arrested, cited and released with a Notice to Appear.

On the afternoon of July 15

officers located a copper colored '84 Nissan 4x4 on the 900 block of Key Route Boulevard that had been reported as stolen. It was towed and the owner was notified.

On the afternoon of July 15 a resident on the 1000 block of Cornell Avenue reported that thieves had stolen her red '80 Volvo. There were no witnesses.

At about 4 a.m. on July 16 officers responded to the AM/PM market on the 1000 block of San Pablo Avenue on reports from a woman who claimed that her domestic partner was bothering her. Officers contacted the couple and learned that the domestic violations had occurred in Oakland. They also found that the 25-year-old Fairfield man had an outstanding Oakland warrant in the amount of \$10,000, an Alameda County Sheriff's warrant in the amount of \$20,000 and a BART

police warrant for \$351. Officers arrested the man for the outstanding warrants and held him for Oakland police to take into custody.

Between July 6 and July 16 officers towed five vehicles, responded to 11 false alarms, attended to 10 lost or deceased animals, assisted four people who were locked out of their house or car and responded to two reports of barking dogs. In the domestic arena officers responded to two domestic disputes, 16 civil disturbances and 122 civil assists. Officers stopped 206 cars and/or pedestrians issuing 148 citations and 58 warnings. Most of the citations were for excessive speed on Buchanan Street, a 25 mph zone, while children were present. Albany firefighter/paramedics responded to 20 medical emergencies.

## Loubal

FROM PAGE 1

Mayor Larry Damon, who were working strenuously to clearcutting. This, in the name of being legally recused from having anything to do with Canyon Trail Park, where there was a house and six lots supposedly wants to demolish. Unbelievably, the Park Rec. Commission voted to approve a motion to have a proper tree management plan before any, and then, immediately dangerous, are cut, and endorsed the immediate cutting of 47 trees.

I have on videotape the maintenance director of the council, "I will only cut one to three trees" at Canyon Trail Clubhouse. He cut six healthy trees. I am the development director of the Design Review Board of the Park and Recreation Commission was informed about the removal of all the old red oak eucalyptus at the clubhouse. Not the city manager only no the council about the Greenway tree removal the fact, and became an issue. The city attorney, did not, but still has not answered the crucial question "Is this the correct process for the maintenance department to take major actions without the council's motions being voted on, and then to the minutes?" Was it Mayor or it is the city manager who has ordered the city not to write up these crucial motions? She has written up all others. Will staff and council always cover up and "spin" tree issues? Does this Council care? Does any citizens care?

Yes, I am sickened by what is going on. Being away for two weeks, I saw so many better (and cheaper) ways of handling urban parks. The three council members who are not recused, when reminded two weeks ago that their motion about the trees were still not written up seemed to have forgotten what they said. Obviously they didn't care anymore, else they would have asked the city clerk to write up their motions and they would have stopped the stupid and untimely tree cutting until they had time for further discussion.

During the last year, the two local self styled environmental organizations, the West County section of the of the Sierra Club and Sustainable El Cerrito, have said nothing about the very serious actions at Canyon Trail park. These groups have clearly lost any credibility as caring for the environment. They use "environmental" merely as a cover for

other political agenda. No potential candidate for council has raised his or her voice to help our trees. Does any El Cerrito "official" care about trees, parks and our environment? At election time, all voters who do care should remember what the council and staff have done, and whether this town has the competence to spend our tax money wisely.

The worst thing about all this is the multiple violations of decent civic behavior by staff and senior management, and most egregiously by Mayor Damon. We are such a small town: our governance should be open, follow correct process, use common sense, be cost effective and follow the laws. Something very precious, public trust, has been violated by the actions at Canyon Trail Park. Let's hope that the sad sacrifice of over twenty trees will lead to a demand for honest, open and responsive governance. We don't need to "scam" each other in our little city. Let's cooperate.

Rosemary Loubal is an El Cerrito Park and Recreation commissioner, but wrote this as a private citizen.

## Damon

FROM PAGE A6

opposition and delay anyway? Finally, did our handling of the Mill & Lumber Project send a message that El Cerrito is a tough town for developers? If it did, how do we change that? And do we even want to?

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## Creeks get by with a little help from their friends

Susan Schwartz and I laughed a lot during our interview for this column. But that didn't mean that she didn't take her responsibilities seriously. As a matter of fact, she takes them very seriously, and is deeply serious about the work of the Friends of Five Creeks, the group she chairs. And she delights in the success the group has had, and is having, in clearing out the creeks and making at least parts of them lovely scenic spots in our urban landscape.

The five creeks that these dedicated people work for are all within the confines of the El Cerrito-Albany-Berkeley area. The Friends' literature points out the particular points where each of the creeks offers a spot of beauty: Codornices Creek, "at Masonic and Santa Fe runs a short distance between steep banks laced with swordfens and native currants beneath open stands of cottonwoods, box elder and redwood trees," they tell us, and add, "A pleasant refuge in the shadow of BART tracks."

Codornices Creek in Live Oak Park off Shattuck, "bubbles for two blocks over its rock-dotted bed in dappled shade of huge live oaks, redwoods, and bay trees. Spanned by several bridges, its whole length walkable along both banks, it has convenient access to the water and stepping stones in several places."

They also point out the area of this creek from 10th Street to Eighth Street, at the north edge of University Village, which "invites a quiet creekside stroll through shady elm woods, a tree-edged glade, and vigorous young willows along the reach of creek daylighted just six years ago."

Middle or Blackberry Creek, at Colusa and Tacoma, "hides in shade of willows and cottonwoods for most of its short exposure to daylight, and has convenient steps leading down to open water and stepping stones in two places."

Codornices Creek is again on their list, in Codornices Park at Euclid and Eunice in Berkeley, where it "runs through varied terrain in a narrow, sometimes steep-sided rock-strewn channel with ivied banks under a high canopy of trees. Paths flank the creek on both sides, leading past playing fields, picnic & barbecue areas and less developed glades."

And No. 5 is Cerrito Creek which "slips quietly toward the Bay north of Albany Hill, an urban refuge of restored oak savannah and willow marsh, with grinding rocks once used by the

CLARA-RAE GENSER  
Community Folk

**There will be a work party on July 21 at 10 a.m. Meet at Creekside Park in El Cerrito to remove invasive weeds, plant natives and build a foot trail.**

Ohlones."

Susan speaks of the restoration, the work parties and the other efforts of the Friends. She says, "I am extraordinarily lucky in that I do not have to work, and can give my time to these causes." The other causes in which she is involved are paths and weeds. "After all, they are intertwined," she notes. She tells about keeping yellow star thistle off our waterfront. "It takes over and just excludes other plants" and the spiny plant makes it hard to walk where it grows. And about pepper weed, which grows in wet areas, and can then invade dry areas and, again, excludes any other plants. And cape ivy, from South Africa, a green weed with bright yellow flowers that forms dense masses on creek sides. "It was brought as a house plant and escaped," she says, adding that a new plant can start with just one leaf.

Schwartz speaks of the necessity of making alliances with other organizations to achieve the results you want.

"If you are going to do this kind of thing you really have to approach everything as a partnership rather than opposition. We have been lucky so far with our alliances," she says. "It is hard to find a solution to something, and get the money or the labor, and reassure everyone who needs it, and follow all the rules without having to fight. Everything has repercussions."

She illustrates with a story about trash cans. They put one on the Ohlone Greenway at Cerrito Creek, and it has had a very good effect. However, the one they put at Codornices Creek at the Ohlone Greenway was used by the nearby people for domestic garbage, and it became an eyesore.

People love to turn out for work parties, she says, and the gatherings are a wonderful experience. People who would never meet each other otherwise, get along and enjoy the

work together.

The Friends of Five Creeks was started by Sonja Wadman, an AmeriCorps volunteer who had been hired by Albany to do something about the creeks. When Wadman left to go to grad school, "I had the time, so I became the chair," Schwartz says.

She lauds e-mail and feels it is part of the reason the Friends keep growing. And she praises the volunteer members who do so much. "We have a couple of hydrologists who keep us out of trouble, people who really know plants and others who really know construction. You can go to these people when you have problems."

She also speaks of other organizations which offer help, such as the California Native Plant Restoration group, and Shelterbelt Builders Inc., who, as part of the work they are doing on local sewer lines, are helping with the Albany portion of the Bay Trail and are going to help with the restoration of the creek alongside the Pacific East Mall.

And she has a commercial: There will be a work party on July 21 at 10 a.m. Meet at Creekside Park in El Cerrito. "We will remove invasive weeds, plant natives and build a little foot trail."

Susan was born in Houston, and has lived in Louisiana, Alameda, Washington, Chico, Florida and here. She attended UC Berkeley during the time of the Free Speech Movement, which had a great effect on her. "You realized that you could do something about what was happening in a democracy." She became a reporter, moved around, came back to Berkeley and married a professor of neurobiology, Robert Zucker. They have two children, Ariel and Mark, and a dog. "We used to go camping a lot, but now I spend so much time out of doors I'm not that interested in camping and hiking," she says.

As I said at the beginning, we laughed a lot during our chat, and I found her to be a fun loving person dedicated to the volunteer work she has undertaken. And that's a good combination.

Friends of Five Creeks can be contacted by calling 510-848-9358, or by e-mail at F5creeks@aol.com. Their Web page is [www.fivecreeks.org](http://www.fivecreeks.org).

As always, I invite your input: Interesting people, etc. Please write to me at 555 Pierce St., #443, Albany, CA 94706 or call 525-4585. My email is [crggenser@aol.com](mailto:crggenser@aol.com)

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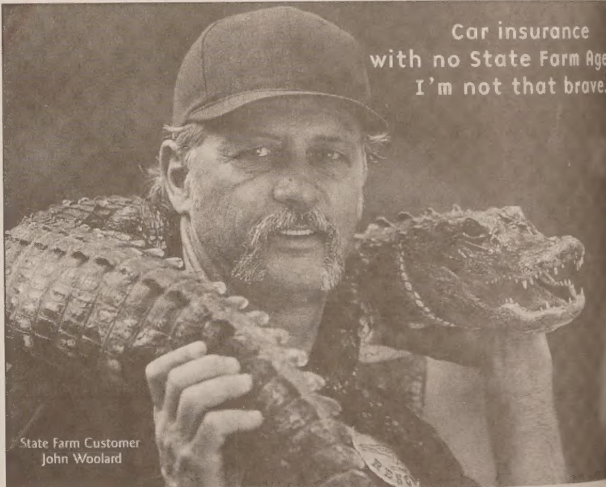
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# Reputation

IN PAGE A1

The motion to approve a mitigation negative declaration environmental report instead of re-evaluating a more extensive environmental impact report (EIR) unanimously approved by the council.

The approved project calls for 32 units on the 4.2-acre site at the intersection of Highway 101 and Highway 238. There will be 8,520 square feet of retail and up to 27,250 square feet of office space. The project will include 15 percent of the units designated for low-income renters, and moderate income renters. The project is the precedent for the problems with the El Cerrito Citizens Alliance, Perka said about the project. "Theoretically this is a commercial mixed-use project. As it stands now we're not sure it's acceptable to be 25 percent commercial and 75 percent residential even though the plan says that commercial use is designed primarily for commercial and residential use. This could set the precedent for other projects in the city," Perka said. The General Plan also reiterated her support for area-specific development which she advocated during the budget process.

Supporters of the Mill & Lumber project have a different take on last week's vote and some say the reputation of the developer is being damaged.

The communication is clearly the development community just don't try — don't even with it, you're going to spend much money," Mayor Larry Baer said when asked about the supposed reputation. "The project of time... they had to go through the delays that were involved by the opposition on the Mill and with the Planning Commission, have communicated any developer 'stay out of El Cerrito,'" Damon said. "This has hurt El Cerrito. This has hurt the word that El Cerrito is an investment and development."

George Collins, El Cerrito Chamber of Commerce president and a member of the city's Economic Development Board (and former councilwoman), agrees. "I'm not a poor developer around for 18 months," he said referring to project developer John Baer of JMS Development Partners. Collins said the "infinitely" has an anti-busi-

ness and anti-development reputation and that she doubts the project's ultimate approval will do much to change it.

Perka disagrees with the view that the city is anti-development. "If you look at the statistics and the numbers that have been produced by the planning department, our permits are processed in a timely manner," Perka said. "People keep repeating the misconception, but the statistics show that we process things in a timely manner."

Steve Magvary, coordinator of the El Cerrito Citizens Alliance, also strongly disagrees with the anti-development characterization and says some people try to use the allegation to silence opposition. "There are people who say that is that reputation, but the facts are, if you look at what's actually transpired rather than what people would like to characterize it as, is in the fact we've done a whole bunch of developments in this community," Magvary said. He cited the Honda project, the Del Norte Marketplace project, the current Plaza reconstruction and the planned Best Inn expansion as examples.

"The fact is that nobody opposed the Mill & Lumber project by saying we don't want the project," Magvary said. "What they said is we would like a better balanced project which benefits the city. I think the people who are making the argument that El Cerrito isn't business friendly are trying to create a climate of fear so that anybody who suggests any change to any project that the developer brings in will be labeled as anti-business."

Magvary is also critical of the Mill & Lumber fiscal analysis presented to the council and says the project will eventually cost the city money. "I raised some fairly serious financial questions about whether the economic analysis done, which predicted a surplus to the general fund as a result of this project, in fact would generate a deficit," he said. Among other things, Magvary said the analysis of city expenditures used an inflation factor of about half of the city's historical inflation rate. Magvary asked why council members did not seek answers or rebuttals to his questions from a representative of the company that performed the analysis in attendance at last week's meeting.

For his part, Baer remains the diplomat. "It took longer than I wanted, but I don't think it took longer than it should have," Baer said about his 15-month effort. "The approval process worked in El Cerrito. That is an ex-

tremely good example of a process that worked. Everybody and their brother touched it (the plan), looked at it and made comments. It was subject to a community wide debate" which made it a much better plan. It wouldn't have gotten there if we hadn't gone through that elaborate hands-on process."

Baer was asked about the city's supposed anti-development reputation. "When we initially (considered) the site, I was cautioned about the political challenges of El Cerrito," Baer said. "I had more than one party say El Cerrito is a particularly tough political process and I would say that is probably true. It was a tougher political entitlement than many we've been through. In many respects it was highly politicized."

Councilwoman Gina Brusatori said the project is a "quality project," which she supported, but that she wanted more commercial space, particularly offices on parcel two. Brusatori's fourth-quarter suggestion for city offices on parcel two did not get much discussion at the July 11 meeting. She said approval of the Mill & Lumber project need not set a precedent about mixed use percentages in the city. "The issue there is we can do better in the General Plan or with area plans to really determine what the mix should be."

"The big picture is that it's a good project," Brusatori said. "Yes, we would like to have seen more commercial. Yes, I'm hoping that this is not considered a precedent. I think there are a lot of good things that came out of this, but I'm looking for things to only do better. I don't see this as the ceiling of good development in El Cerrito; I see this as the floor."

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## Candidates

FROM PAGE 1

brought to city hall and that the city has begun a sound financial program. "Many of the things that I wanted to accomplish are already embodied in the recommendations of the Committee of the Whole," He also pointed to current Plaza reconstruction. "I wanted to let commercial forces do the development there and the minute that we got the city out of the way, the Plaza started moving forward."

"People at 65 look at things differently than they do when they're 45," Damon said. "At 65 you've got grandchildren. Of all the titles and accolades and everything, the best one I've got right now is grandpa and so I'm going to be the world's best grandpa."

Friedman said he remains undecided about seeking reelection, but will probably make a decision by next week. He said he is definitely not running for state assembly to replace Dion Aroner,

who is being forced out of her 14th Assembly District seat by term limits.

Friedman is executive director of the Alameda County Children and Families Commission and said he needs to balance commitments to his job with commitments to the City Council.

Brusatori said she will definitely run for reelection. "I have worked hard to improve El Cerrito's city facilities and streets, financial health and public processes during my first term. El Cerrito is well positioned for growth," Brusatori said on Wednesday. "I am running for re-

election because I want to continue to lead El Cerrito, focusing on economic growth that builds upon our strengths and needs the character of the community."

"We have a new city manager who is doing a terrific job and as a policy maker I want to be around the next three years to provide the support he needs to accomplish the great things he has set out to do," she said.

Brusatori was first appointed to the council in August 1996 to complete Councilwoman Cathie Kosel's term. She won election in her own right in 1997 and served as mayor in 1999.

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## IN BRIEF

## Parking permit fee increases to \$12

EL CERRITO — The cost of residential parking permits is going up from \$5 to \$12 for three years. The City Council, which approved the increase Monday, said the money is needed to help pay for processing the permits, available in neighborhoods with restricted street parking.

During the past couple of years the city has added restricted parking — primarily four-hour limits — in neighborhoods near BART stations. The permits exempt residents from the parking restrictions.

For information on purchasing permits call 510-215-4300.

## Schools to poll voters

The West Contra Costa school district will poll voters this summer to help determine whether to place a construction bond or parcel tax measure on the ballot in the next year. The school board voted Tuesday to spend \$20,150 to survey 500 voters

about improvement efforts in the district. Trustees want additional funding to pay for repairs at secondary schools and more instruction throughout the district.

Voters approved three funding measures in the past five years: a \$150 million construction bond issue for elementary schools last year; a \$40 million bond measure that included a new Richmond middle school in 1998; and a \$72-per-parcel tax measure for play structures and recreation facilities in 1996.

Trustees may place a new measure on the ballot as early as November.

## New principal at Castro

West Contra Costa school officials have selected Nicole Vedder as the new principal for Castro Elementary School. Vedder, a bilingual teacher in the Hayward school district, has served twice as a summer school principal.

In addition, Robert Heller, principal of Madera Elementary, has been transferred to Olinda Elementary in El Sobrante.

## Paralegal

FROM PAGE A1

the 1940s, when the village provided housing for war industry workers and residents planted "victory gardens" in support of the war effort. From the time when the complex housed shipyard workers to the present, when it houses students from UC Berkeley, the garden has remained a fixture. Of the 80 residents that participate in the garden, Alexander has come in contact with people from all over the world — from Zimbabwe to Ireland to Germany to Japan.

There are "people from all over, it's really incredible," said Alexander, a graduate student at UC. "It really adds a lot of flavor and it's a really wonderful place for the community."

Village resident Matt Meyer has seen what the garden has done for the youngsters in the community.

"It teaches kids to respect wildlife and get an appreciation for nature," he said.

After making his pitch, the soft spoken Alexander showed a sign of solidarity by inviting the entire council to attend the garden's community festival that will take place on June 28 as honorary judges.

The festival will house activities for kids, music and food and will serve as the grand opening of a "teaching plot," a place

where kids and first time gardeners can get their green thumbs wet.

However, barring any last minute change of heart by the council, plans should go forward for construction once an environmental impact report comes back to the city deeming the area fit for construction.

Alexander and friends plan on using the July 28 event as a forum in their effort to preserve the garden.

At the meeting the council also unanimously renewed the Landscaping and Lighting Assessment District, which will bring in an estimated \$678,000-plus and will focus on the need for maintenance and overhaul of the Ohlone Greenway, Ocean View Park, Memorial Park and the tennis courts adjacent to Memorial Park.

The land and tennis courts that housed the Albany High School portables while the new site was being constructed will finally be restored with a \$100,000 pledge from the school district and funds from the assessment. In addition, park benches and walkway lighting will be installed on the Ohlone Greenway and new lighting, play area equipment, restrooms and renovations to the teen center building will be made to Ocean View Park. Improvements such as drainage and irrigation will be made to Memorial Park. Construction should be completed by 2003.

## Speakeasy's 'Orphans' sad, yet uplifting

By J.R. Deaton  
STAFF WRITER

"Orphans" at the Speakeasy Theatre in Berkeley is a drama about brotherly love, need and manipulation, abandonment, anger, Hellman's mayonnaise and the importance of a good, "encouraging" shoulder rub.

Written by Lyle Kessler, first produced in Los Angeles in 1983 and later made into a movie, "Orphans" tells the story of two adult orphan brothers living isolated and dysfunctional lives in a rundown Philadelphia (the city of brotherly love) neighborhood.

Older brother Treat (played by Raul Rubio), fueled by anger and whiskey, has turned to a life of crime and repressed emotion. His illegal activities provide the household income. He is the kind of criminal who becomes indignant when recalling how one of his victims put up a fight before handing over the money. "It's amazing how people stop strug-

gling once there's a little blood" he says.

Younger brother Phillip (Bruce Kaplan), confined to home because of multiple allergies, lives a stunted, juvenile life of television and window watching. Canned tuna and mayonnaise from the jar are his two main passions, but Phillip furtively reads novels and newspapers, hinting at changes to come.

There is a complex dynamic going on between the brothers. Treat becomes enraged when he discovers that Phillip has been reading books and underlining words, sentences "and even phrases." Is baby brother finally growing up?

Late one night Treat brings home Harold (played by Fred Barson), a drunk older businessman he met at a bar. Harold is also an orphan and apparently feels sorry for Treat. "Orphans are always hungry," Harold tells

Treat and repeatedly refers to him as a "dead-end kid." Treat's plan is to kidnap Harold and seek ransom. The drunk older man is soon bound and gagged.

The plan doesn't work out, however, and it becomes apparent that Harold's mysterious "business" may be more sophisticated and polished, but just as illegal, as Treat's. Harold sobers up and escapes his ropes, but instead of fleeing, moves in with the brothers and changes their lives.

Father-figure Harold develops a close bond to Phillip and talks to him about big things like evolution and geography and our place in the universe. Treat, although happier, remains emotionally distant and at times violent. There is an underlying feeling that things in the household are off-kilter and could fly out of control, but somehow, as with most families, they muddle along.

The ending, after some stage violence, is both sad and uplifting and you know there will have been changes in the Philadelphia household.

Directed at the Speakeasy Theatre by award-winning Berkeley director Virginia Lee Corbin and performed by students, "Orphans" is a powerful and redemptive work. As Treat, Kaplan and Phillip, Barson as Harold all work to the right note. The dramatic sparse rowhouse stage designed by Keith Slaton mood.

"Orphans" opened Friday 13 and plays through Sunday Aug. 5, at the Speakeasy Theatre, 2016 Seventh St., Berkeley. Times are 8 p.m. Friday and Saturdays and 7 p.m. Sunday. There is no performance on July 20. Tickets are \$15. Reservations call 510-842-1681.

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# Real Estate & Home

Supplement to The Berkeley Voice, The Journal, The Montclair, The Piedmonter

Friday, July 20, 2001

Section B

**Weekly Home Sales** Maintain your focus on the East Bay real estate scene [B9]  
**Open Home Guide** See what's on sale in your neighborhood [B13]

## Historic conversions: Recycling history

Part one of three parts

During the four and a half years I have been writing this column, I have included several articles on historic conversions. These are defined by architects as converting the facade of a historic building to its original appearance, while designing the interior to adapt to modern use that is more ecologically viable than the original building.

Preserving the historic interior of the building's facade while making it possible for the current owner to conduct a profitable business to meet a modern community need if the owners are a government agency or a nonprofit

organization. Outstanding examples of adaptive reuse in the East Bay include the former Golden State Bakery on Allston Way in Berkeley, which was recently converted by the Berkeley Repertory for use as an auxiliary building.



**MARK WILSON**  
Owning A Piece of History

ing for its theater company; the old Oakland Hotel on 13th Street in Oakland, which was remodeled into a senior citizens housing center several years ago by The Ratcliff Architects firm and the Alameda Theater building on Central Avenue in Alameda, which has undergone several renovations of its interior after closing as a movie theater about 20 years ago.

But there is a special subcategory of adaptive reuse which has gained momentum in the Bay Area over the past few years. I call this recent trend "historic conversions."

See WILSON, Page B7



PHOTOS BY ANDREA FERREIRA

**ANTONIO PERALTA BUILT A TWO-STORY WOODEN HOUSE IN 1870**, above. The structure has all the classic features of the Italianate style; round arched doorways and windows, a columned porch across the front, wooden brackets lining the cornice and a hipped roof. The park around the house will be developed into a multi-use neighborhood resource center — as shown in the architect's model, left, — while preserving the integrity of the natural environment.

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**175 Mountain Ave.** New Listing \$1,595,000  
Classic two story traditional in central Piedmont. 4+BR/2.5BA, family room, gardens, pool and extra spaces for office or exercise room. Gorgeous! Katherine Cooper



**26 Hampton Rd.** New Listing \$1,250,000  
A one of a kind, Piedmont gem across from a beautiful park! Professionally decorated & landscaped, this charming home offers 2BR & gourmet kitchen. Anian Pettit Tunney

**431 Pacific Avenue** \$995,000

View • View • View. This home boasts fabulous views, spacious rooms, a great floor plan with lovely hardwood floors, 4BR/3BA and a rumpus room. Mavis Delacroix

**350 Magnolia Avenue** \$689,000

Charming, central Piedmont, traditional home with original detailing in spacious entry, living & dining rooms. Updated eat-in kitchen, 3BR/2BA + bonus room. Erika Celestre

### ~ Open Sunday 2-4:30 p.m. ~

**1650 Grand View Dr., Oakland** \$1,250,000  
Dramatic new home w/sweeping Bay view & fabulous open floor plan. Exquisite master retreat, spacious family room + library & media room. 4BR/4.5BA. Steve Michaelides



**901 Paramount Rd., Oakland** Price Upon Request  
Crocker Highlands classic traditional w/original details; arched doors, hardwood floors & leaded glass windows. Updated kitchen & baths. 3BR/2.5BA. Elizabeth Dickson

**6291 Vallejo St. #2, Emeryville** \$379,000

Spacious newly constructed home. Move right in! Open floor plan. 3BR/2.5BA. Convenient location, close to transportation & shopping. Adrienne Tunney



**13000 Skyline Blvd., Oakland** \$1,195,000  
Dramatic country estate on a level acre w/Mt. Diablo views. Large kitchen, family room & 4BR/3.5BA. Charming guest cottage. Michelle Winchester

**299 Euclid Avenue, Oakland** \$649,000

1925 original charm. Located on a corner knoll with gumwood details throughout, built-ins & special extra rooms. 4BR/1.5BA. Judy Rankankan

**509 Norvell St., El Cerrito** \$399,000

Come & see this completely renovated, turn of the century Farm House. Private sun deck off master bedroom. Beautifully landscaped garden. Adrienne Tunney

**50 Lane Court, Oakland** \$995,000

Level access to a charming home with a panoramic, two bridge view. Exceptional brick enclosed patio. Gorgeous gardens. Wonderful light. 3BR/2BA. Jean Simmons

**3206 Ellis St., Berkeley** \$435,000

Classic 3BR/2BA Craftsman restored w/original detail & built-ins. Fireplace, hardwood floors, beamed ceiling, gourmet kitchen w/granite & stainless. Great garden. Jill Carrigan

**160 Moss Way, Oakland** \$299,000

Victorian charm. Close to Piedmont Ave. shops. Updated kitchen & bath. Formal dining room w/fireplace. Lovely private garden. Donna DeBardi

### ~ By Appointment ~



**Glamorous Mediterranean** \$1,595,000  
Piedmont. Elegant Mediterranean w/fabulous architectural details. Gourmet "chefs" kitchen opens level out to private garden. SF views. Anian Pettit Tunney

**Location in Claremont** \$759,000

BERKELEY. Traditional home w/formal rooms, large dining room, living room w/ fireplace, updated kitchen. 3BR/2BA. Close to shops & great restaurants. Kurt Buchholz

**Piedmont Ave. Craftsman** \$399,000

OAKLAND. Popular Piedmont Ave. neighborhood. 3+BR/2BA. Eat-in kitchen, formal dining room, fireplace, level yard. Close to shops and cafes. Donna DeBardi

**Mediterranean Elegance** \$1,495,000

Piedmont. Fabulous Mediterranean home w/spectacular entry, stained glass windows, 4 large BR (master BR has a fireplace). Lovely family room. Anian Pettit Tunney

**Rose Garden Masterpiece** \$769,000

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**Charming Bungalow** \$329,000

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**Arts & Crafts Home & Income** \$950,000

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**Peaceful Canyon Setting** \$549,000

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**Crocker Highlands Tudor** \$895,000

OAKLAND. Grand English Tudor w/elegant formal living & dining room, remodeled eat-in kitchen, master suite, 2 additional BR/3BA. Home office & garden. James Garcia

**Temescal Charm** \$439,000

OAKLAND. Charming 3+BR/1BA Temescal home. Updated eat-in kitchen, large living room, formal dining room, fenced rear garden & separate studio. Karen Starr

**Piedmont Pines Lot** \$149,000

Two downslope lots. All utilities available. Debra J. Dryden  
**Builders Dream in Montclair** \$65,000  
 Four contiguous lots to be sold as a package. Jill Carrigan



# Patching a wood hole can be a bit of a trick

Chances you someday will have to make a patch to paneling, siding, a door or cabinetry. When that need arises, you will need to know a few things that will make light work of the task.

There are four basic steps: cutting the patch; cutting out the damaged area; installing backing for the patch; installing the patch itself.

Locating and cutting the patch is probably the hardest part of this project. Matching wood grain can be tricky. Perfection might be achieved in some instances but wood isn't wallpaper, and the grain in the area of the damage might be difficult to duplicate.

In any event, get as close as you can. Cut the patch slightly larger than the damaged area. The cut doesn't have to be straight, but the edges must not be chipped.

Use the patch as a template and mark a line around the damaged surface. When you have completed making a cutout of the damaged area the line should be visible. Remember, the line was made using your patch.

That automatically makes the hole too big if the line is cut out, so leave the line. A very accurate cut can be made with an electric multi-tool — the kind used for building models and working on crafts. Take your time with this part of the project.

If a neat hole is cut to the exact size required, the finished product will be good — even if there is a difference in the texture of the patch.

With the patch and hole ready



MORRIS & JAMES CAREY  
On the House

to go, the next step is to provide something for the patch to be mounted to. Here, small pieces of wood can be glued around the opening of the hole that will accept the patch. For wood patches, yellow aliphatic carpenter's glue is best.

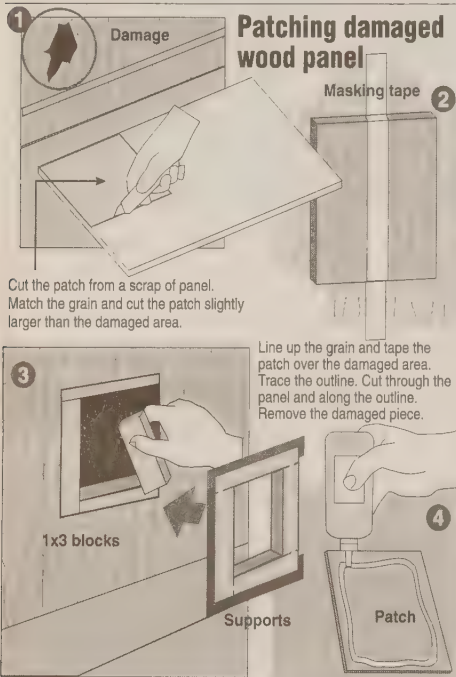
Pretty much any size piece of wood can be used. Glue the backing pieces onto the existing surface so that half the wood is behind the panel and half is under the patch. Spring clamps provide more than enough pressure to hold everything in place.

Once the backing is solidly in place, the patch can be installed. Careful here.

Dirt and debris on the back of the patch or the front of the backing might prevent the patch surface from making flush alignment with the surface to be repaired.

Finally, use a colored putty to disguise the joint around the patch.

Pittsburg contractors Morris and James O. Carey air Saturday mornings on KSFO 560 AM. Write the Carey Brothers, c/o the Associated Press, 50 Rockefeller Plaza, New York, NY 10020-1666, or e-mail to careybro@onthehouse.com. Visit their Web site at www.onthehouse.com.



Cut the patch from a scrap of panel. Match the grain and cut the patch slightly larger than the damaged area.

Line up the grain and tape the patch over the damaged area. Trace the outline. Cut through the panel and along the outline. Remove the damaged piece.

Install the backing for the patch. Nail or glue a 1-by-3 block behind each edge of the hole. Each support will be half under the panel and half under the patch.

Apply glue to the supports and the back of the patch. Allow the glue to become tacky, then put into place.

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# A few fast fixes just might equal a quick sale

■ A little paint here, a little scrub there help get your home sold

BY ALAN J. HEAVENS  
KNIGHT-RIDDER NEWSPAPERS

Home sellers are a sensitive lot, and successful real estate agents know that.

So when an agent suggests ways to give a house a better chance to sell quickly, and for the asking price or more, he or she often has to tread carefully.

"Especially when pets are involved," said Judith Alligood, a Philadelphia-area agent.

"People are sensitive about their pets, but they have to be made to understand that not everyone likes animals," she said. Many prospective buyers are allergic to them, and, even if they aren't, pet odors can be a turnoff.

This usually means carpets have to be professionally cleaned or removed before the house goes on the market, Alligood said. Every place where the pet is known to venture has to be cleaned thoroughly, and that often means the entire house.

Pet odors are just one of a number of sensitive issues agents have to deal with in getting a house on the market. And as housing sales show some signs of slowing, getting houses onto the market quickly before it changes for the worse is critical.



painting contractor, "I have arrangements with a carpenter, a licensed plumber and electrician that take care of problems that come up."

The work Shlomo does to get a house ready to show does not have

"If the house has a brand new kitchen but the kitchen is dirty, very few buyers will give it a second look. But if the house has a 1967 avocado kitchen that is spotless and has a floor so clean you can lick it, the house will sell, and for a lot more than the house with the new kitchen."

Developer Mark Wade

This means finding people to do the little and large jobs to make a house look — and smell — better than the rest.

"When you sell a house, you aren't selling a house, you are selling emotion," said developer Mark Wade, who started out selling real estate in the 1980s.

"Buyers want a house they can impress their friends with before they move in," Wade said. "And that means it has to show well. It has to be clean — spotless."

"If the house has a brand new kitchen but the kitchen is dirty, very few buyers will give it a second look," Wade said. "But if the house has a 1967 avocado kitchen that is spotless and has a floor so clean you can lick it, the house will sell, and for a lot more than the house with the new kitchen."

But not many sellers can drop what they are doing and devote two solid weeks of their lives to getting a house ready for market.

So most veteran real estate agents often have a list of regulars to call upon to give the seller a helping hand.

For example, Joanne Davidow, of Prudential Fox & Roach in Philadelphia, depends heavily on painting contractor Ofer Shlomo for everything from touching up to doing whole houses at a moment's notice.

"Paint is one of those things that definitely translates into money at the settlement table," Davidow said. While Shlomo is specifically a

to be "museum-quality," he said. "Buyers are not usually going to keep the paint that was on the house when they bought it," Shlomo said.

"What I do is to make sure there are no leaks and then to cover the stain marks, for example, or to touch up rooms."

Because most buyers are looking for contractors after they settle on a house, Davidow usually recommends Shlomo, "and that's when I do the fine painting work and change the colors," he said.

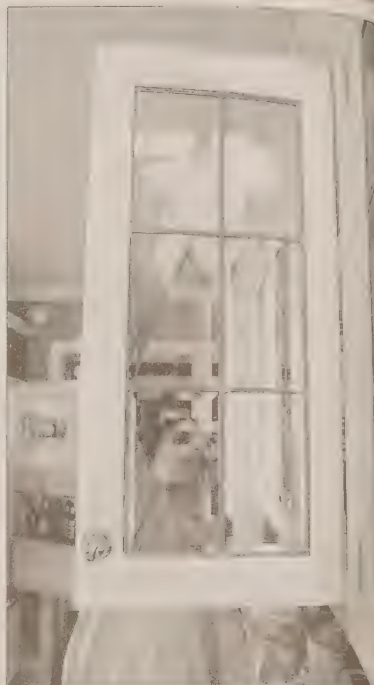
Touch-up jobs usually take him a day and a half, while he can finish two or three standard-size rooms in one or two days, he said.

When Denise Baron was a real estate agent, she spent much of her time tracking down people to help her prepare houses quickly for the market.

Six years ago, Baron launched Too Little Time, a Philadelphia-area company that provides such services to real estate agents as well as homeowners and businesses.

"We have a staff of eight to 12 people, although the number fluctuates throughout the year," Baron said. "But we also have an extensive list of vendors we deal with regularly who often have to get to a job two hours after we call them."

Baron's company is called upon to do a variety of jobs. "For example, we'll pet-sit while the house is being shown," she said. "We bring in a professional organizer who will



PAINTER OFER SHLOMO, top, discusses what needs to be done to spruce up a condominium for sale with Joanne Davidow of Prudential Fox & Roach Realty, Natividad Francisco, above, of a home to help it look its best when it goes on the market.

rearrange kitchen cupboards and closets to make them more appealing to a buyer."

Her people clean trash out of houses and cart it away; they wash windows, spackle pocks in walls and repair scratches in furniture. They also plant and replant gardens, pack and unpack, and do errands.

"We even put fresh flowers in the houses and bake an apple pie in the oven to make the house smell nice," Baron said.

Often, such services aren't that expensive. For example, many window-washing services charge \$8 per window — inside and out and

that includes doing the stairs and windows as well.

Depending on the job, Baron's handyman earns \$75 per hour. Having someone clean a house will cost \$250 an hour while planning for the garden will average \$300.

To succeed, these providers have to be quick. "The key to one of the ties on sale was oiled house, and I got a lock-smith within 10 minutes," said.

"If I needed a locksmith, I'd be waiting at least a week," she said.

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General Manager..... Ruth Martin

General Manager/Alameda Journal..... Lynne Fitzsimmons

Editor..... Dennis Egan

Oakland, Piedmont, Alameda 510-748-1688

Advertising Sales..... Taura B...

Sales Assistants..... Cyndee Meek, Joyce Thompson

Advertising Design..... Colin Johnson, Alicia Jimenez, Jim Spratley, Donna W...

Albany, Berkeley, El Cerrito, Kensington, Richmond 510-262-2755

Advertising Sales..... Madeline D...

Advertising Design..... Kathy Johnson

Open Homes Guide FAX..... 510-748-1688

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# Turning a home into a castle, dreaming of days of old

Number 37 in a series of true experiences in real estate

At week, I've continued to work on my castle-like house. I've been trying to find the beginnings of the castle — words and phrases — to describe the building. The castle is a two-story house with a large front porch and a small tower at the rear. It is a beautiful house and I am proud of it. I have been working on it for a long time and I am proud of it. I have been working on it for a long time and I am proud of it.

The books about Robin Hood were to hand immediately, one published in 1928, with beautiful illustrations, as well as marvelous black prints depicting all the characters in the story. The first one on the frontispiece in the book is "To a good Robin Hood Nov. 2, 1929."

The other is a small book with a red cover — earlier, from the 1920s, titled "Life In The Greenwoods" which contains appealing illustrations and ink drawings of Robin Hood and his friends and enemies, also including a four-line verse describing activities in the greenwood. I thought I might use one of the illustrations from these books, or possibly a quotation, but nothing struck me. I think, because the subtitle of the book is "In a fine but regular-looking Berkeley neighborhood."

The only book to Robin Hood is the one I have, and so, I went to look for something to use to kindle my thoughts. I found a poem about castles. For my friends and knights and ladies, and for the very stuff of children's dreams.

I looked through all my poetry books, then when I came up empty, I went to the Internet where I was able to locate some very good poems, but not one poem on castles.

I went to my bookshelves, where I am reminded with joy that during school project a few years back,

I got sidetracked reading about battles and weapons, drawbridges, the Feudal system, what knights wore, even the toilets they used, but none of this seemed especially pertinent to my house flyer.

I'd bought a couple of books showing the construction and living arrangements inside castles. These books are so beautifully illustrated that although I couldn't have known why I would have a further use for them, I had saved them, and found them now to be quite fascinating.

I got sidetracked reading about battles and weapons, drawbridges, the Feudal system, what knights wore, even the toilets they used, but none of this seemed especially pertinent to my house flyer.

I did start thinking about all the marvelous modern day advantages "my" castle has that castles of old did not: running hot and cold water, for instance; not to mention electric lights in every room, a working sewer system, and central heating.

Plus a "cold box" (refrigerator) for preserving food, a "hot box" (electric powered stove) for cooking (no constant tending of fires required), and a "drying box" for wet, washed clothes.

I could, I suppose, list on the flyer all of these things that today we take for granted, expecting to find them in every home. I might also list items the subject "castle" does not have. There is no mote or gatehouse, portcullis (the iron grid that guards a castle entrance), drawbridge or battlements. Maybe, if I have enough space, I'll include these, just for fun.

There are some similarities I could use. My house has, as did old castles, a vestibule, bed chambers, banquet hall and gathering room (dining and living rooms, we call them), and a kitchen (I expected the kitchen in castles to have an

other name, but they don't), also a courtyard.

Next I investigated names of castles and houses. Maybe I could name my castle, something suggesting old, but better than old. Back on the Web, I found lists of castles (all place names), also the names people in England have given to their, the most common being hall, manor, house, lodge and cottage, usually combined with a nearby feature: Orchard House, Apple Tree Cottage, Priory View, Swallows Return.

The best part of this search was finding how many pretty houses are for rent by the week in England at modest rates. Made me die to rent one. But my house doesn't have an obvious name as these seem to have.

So I began to investigate family crests thinking one would be colorful on the flyer, could be fanciful, completely make believe.

I have a copy of my family crest (Charlesworth, my maiden name), and it's pretty neat, complete with the motto *Justitia Et Veritas*, but it's a bad copy, unusable.

Crests, I found, are often elaborate, sometimes incorporating several families' crests (combined after marriages), and although they are family crests, not house crests, I thought I might use one if I could discover a way to make my own design. Well, it turns out that Amazon.com offers a design-your-own-crest book for \$7.63, including shipping, which I immediately ordered; it should arrive in a few days.

I especially like it that crests include Latin mottos. Of course, I know no Latin. But, that's not a big

problem because the Internet (whatever did I do before I had access?) Provides English to Latin translations. Now I was back again to finding a name for my house, after which I could choose a motto.

What about this house separates it from others, I asked myself. It is located on a corner, a wide, rounded corner. Corner Castle? Rounded Corner Castle?

An hour or so of random thoughts filled my paper with Stone Arch Castle, Camellia Castle and Berkeley Castle Near the Bay. Other words I wrote include captivating, modern day, timeless, choicest, comfortable. I added legacy, magical, 20th century, and one that seemed promising, Fine Lodgings.

In the end, I chose (this might still change) Merry Heart Castle. I like this one. For me, it conveys the good feeling of this house. I picture a cheery fire in the handsome fireplace, family gathered near, everyone enjoying being there.

And that image gave me the motto: generous spirit. I couldn't quite manage the exact translation into Latin. Instead, I used *Spiritus Et Munificencia*, which, I hope, means spirit and generosity.

*Nahid Nassiri and Pat Talbert are licensed real estate agents who specialize in single family houses. They also offer hourly real estate consulting and coaching. They can be reached by e-mail at patanet@lmi.net or by phone at 510-653-2050.*

## Yes, you can own a home

**It's true. You can own a home. Learn the steps everyone needs when preparing to buy a home at the free seminar "Home Buying 101: How To Buy Your First Or Next Home."** The seminar is scheduled for Saturday, July 28 from 9:30 a.m. to noon in the lower level conference room in the Sanwa Building in San Leandro at the corner of Hesperian Boulevard and East 14th Street.

Stan Johnson, a top producing residential loan specialist with First Security Loan, is the facilitator. With 10 years in the business, Johnson has seen the many faces of the real estate market and helped many find homes in even the most discouraging times. "If folks are will-

ing to devote the time," said Johnson, "I am willing to give them the necessary tools."

Johnson will speak on purchasing with a \$500 down payment and no out-of-pocket closing costs. "There are several programs designed to assist people in qualifying to buy a home," said Johnson. "This is an opportunity for future home purchasers to invest in themselves."

Participants will learn about available grant money, 100 percent financing, FHA and VA programs and the Community Reinvestment Act. Those who attend can be pre-qualified for initial credit approval. There will be refreshments and door prizes. Seating is limited; reservation are required. Call 510-614-2433.

## Rates steady across board

McLean, VA — In Freddie Mac's Primary Mortgage Market Survey, the 30-year fixed-rate mortgage averaged 7.21 percent, with an average cost of 0.9 point (1 point equals 1 percent of the loan amount), for the week ending July 13.

This bellwether rate rose 2 basis points from last week's average of 7.19 percent. A year ago, the 30-year fixed-rate mortgage averaged 8.09 percent.

The 15-year fixed-rate mortgage this week averaged 6.76 percent, with an average cost 0.9 point. This popular refinance tool also rose 2 basis points from last week's average, which stood at 6.74 percent.

This time last year, the 15-year fixed-rate mortgage averaged 7.80 percent.

One-year Treasury-indexed adjustable-rate mortgages (ARMs) averaged 5.79 percent this week, with an average cost of 0.9 point.

Like its fixed-rate counterparts the ARM also rose 2 basis points from last week's average, which was 5.71 percent. This time last year, the 1-year ARM averaged 7.22 percent.

"Mortgage rates didn't fall in response to the Federal Reserve Board's most recent rate reduction because the capital markets had already settled in on the notion that the economy will recover. Consequently, we see long-term fixed-rate mortgages remaining in the low-7-percent range at least through the summer," said Robert Van Order, Freddie Mac chief economist.



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New Listing!  
**Open House, Sunday July 22, 2001 2:00 PM - 4:30 PM**  
**739 Woodhaven Road, Berkeley Asking Price \$739,000**  
Elegant poolside living can be yours in this Berkeley Hills gem!! Offering optimal privacy on a traffic free & secluded street, entertain in style in the main level family room or invite guests up the spiral stair case to the bright & spacious great room combining a gourmet kitchen and large living room w/fireplace that levels out to lush landscaped backyard & pool. Or just relax in the huge master suite w/full bath as you look out glass patio doors towards the pool & garden!

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## A room that's a view

**THE FIRST THING ONE SEES** looking from the master bedroom into the master bathroom is this stunning spa tub under arched windows. It creates an inviting and relaxing mood. The tub is flanked by his and hers vanities with arched mirrors and plenty of lighting. There is also a compartmentalized toilet and a separate shower.

## Beware the advance fee scam

Interest rates are at their lowest in years, so this is a great time to get a low interest rate mortgage loan and consolidate all your bills. Particularly when the ads are screaming promises of 24-hour approvals and no closing costs regardless of your credit history—all of this for just a small "good faith" advance fee.

It is also the perfect time indeed for scam artists to run this advance-fee fraud scheme, and how perfectly naive of you to believe what they are telling you without checking them out.

This happened to us nearly six years ago, and it is amazing to me that this scam continues to happen. We should have known that if somebody is promising you a lot of money for a very low or reasonable interest rate and doesn't care about your ability to repay the loan or your credit status, there must be something fishy going on. But, at the time we considered the \$295 "application fee" a research investment, if only to protect our own clients.

The advance-fee scheme—asking you to pay a percentage of the loan up front to process your application—is a major fraud in many parts of the country, but it seems most of these outfits operate out of the State of Florida.

The pitch is that you can get refinancing in 24 hours without closing costs. The reality is that after you pay the advance fee, the alleged mortgage broker begins stalling until he skips town with your money.

According to chief investigator at the comptroller's office in Fort Lauderdale, Mark Mathosian, "it tends to be an easy fraud to perpetrate. These swindlers gather as much money in advance fees as they can and then move on."

Although an advance payment may be required in legitimate transactions, the amount is small compared to the size of the loan, and the fee is typically for a specific item.

Legitimate mortgage companies and lenders apply up front fees to credit reports and property appraisals. In many cases, the mortgage broker will have the borrowers write the checks directly to the credit-reporting service and to the appraiser. But in a typical advance-

fee scheme, self-described mortgage brokers ask for a percentage of the loan amount, usually 1 percent, and call it a "loan processing" or "application" or "good faith" deposit which will be rebated to the borrower when the loan is funded.

Mortgage brokers, who must be licensed by some governing board such as the Department of Real Estate in California, do not lend money but act as liaisons between borrowers and lenders. A mortgage broker should have access to several lenders and be able to offer a wide variety of programs.

While mortgage brokers can help you find the right lender and program to meet your needs they cannot fund a loan or guarantee that you will be accepted into any loan program or be approved for a particular interest rate. Only the specific institution making and funding the loan can do these things.

The pitch is that you can get refinancing in 24 hours without closing costs. The reality is that after you pay the advance fee, the alleged mortgage broker begins stalling until he skips town with your money.

So, what are the red flags to be aware of?

**1) Watch out for the 24 hour approval promises.** The scam artist may ask for minimal information, call you back in three to five hours with a verbal approval and tell you that they cannot process the file any further until the "application fee" arrives.

They will suggest that you send a cashier's check (otherwise there will be a five-day hold until your check clears) and use an overnight delivery service. We were promised 72 hour funding upon receipt of the money. That was when the great stall began.

After calling every day for three weeks, the scoundrels closed up shop and moved on. The Florida authorities that we contacted said that they had received over 1,000 complaints relating to these particular crooks and they figured they had shipped with over 3 million dollars in advance fees.



**KAREN SENZIG**  
Mortgage Broker

Please note that experienced lenders can and do offer electronic pre-approvals in less than an hour over the phone.

But the only advance fee we usually collect is for the report for about \$18. The borrower gets a copy of the report.

**2) Ask what the up front fee is for, and why do they need it.** If they cannot give you a good reason (and I can't think of one) you are asking for trouble.

**3) Insist that the money be**

in an escrow account in the area. A male mortgage broker loans in the State of California is regulated by the Department of Real Estate and must provide a front deposit to the DRE's trust fund.

**4) Ask for a "Good Faith Estimate."** Whether you are dealing with a mortgage broker or a lender, demand your right to a written estimate of the costs of the services that you are paying for. It is known as a "Good Faith Estimate" and Mortgage Broker Agreement. Read it carefully and question any fee that seems excessive.

Always remember that good common sense statements sound too good to be true. Watch out for the scam artist who will rip you off without thought and drive you to Mortgage Madness.

Karen Senzig is co-owner of Montclair Mortgage with her husband Scott. She can be reached at (510) 339-8511, fax (510) 339-8512, e-mail at ksenzig@aol.com. She can contact her with any mortgage questions and/or topics for discussion.

## Publisher's Notice

All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or an intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination." Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents, or legal custodians, pregnant women and persons securing custody of children under 18.

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby notified that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis.

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This two bedroom / one bath bungalow is a perfect starter home! Complete with built-ins, a cozy fireplace in the living room, a formal dining room, and breakfast nook in the kitchen! There is also an extra room perfect for a home office or family room. The sunny backyard is great for gardening and play. Newly painted inside and out with refinished hardwood floors. This home is very reasonably priced.

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Uniquely located in the Delaware Historic Development project just steps from Berkeley's bustling 4th street, this commercial condominium represents a rare opportunity. Currently used as an office, this is a perfect spot for a variety of uses. High ceilings and light filled spaces create a wonderful atmosphere while the mezzanine provides a unique second level.

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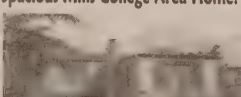
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BAY AREA PROPERTIES



# A look around the real estate community

news and information for and about the area real estate community and affiliated industries.

## PUBLIC INVITED

**Can Own A Home**  
Home Buying 101 is a free seminar with First Security Loan, Residential Loan Specialist and Instructor **Stan Johnson**. Learn the home buying steps to prepare for home ownership.

The seminar is Saturday, July 28 from 9:30 to noon. The location is the lower level conference room, of the San Jose Building in San Leandro at the corner of Hesperian and East Ave. Seating is limited, so reservations are required. RSVP to 510-636-3602.

**McComack's Guides for 2001**  
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## PRESIDENTIAL YACHT HOSTS CAR PRESIDENT

The official visit of the California Association of Realtors presented the presidential yacht, U.S.S. Potomac took place last Wednesday. **Gary Thomas**, the 2001 President, visited with officers and members of real estate associations in Alameda and Contra Costa counties.

This visit helped the CAR President keep in touch with local issues in the real estate community. The U.S.S. Potomac was a favorite of President Franklin D. Roosevelt and bermed at Jack London Square and Oakland.

## REALTISTS

The Associated Real Property Owners (ARPO) holds a networking breakfast on the third Wednesday every month.

This month's breakfast is on July 20 from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. The Oak Grove on Embarcadero in Oakland is the location.

Real estate agents are encouraged to bring flyers and market their properties. The meeting is open for all. For more information call **Bridget Cain** of Fidelity National Title at 903-8100.

## REAL ESTATE ASSISTANT TRAINING

The Oakland Association of Realtors is offering "The Assistant Training Program", a four-part course to train real estate assistants. Real Estate Business Service, Inc., a subsidiary of The California Association of Realtors will instruct. Assistants will learn the steps of the transaction, what they can and cannot do and technology to make their jobs easier. The program is held on the first four Fridays in August. The fee for the complete four-course program is \$195 or \$75 per course. For registration or an informational flyer contact **Mary Walton** at the OAR office at 510-836-3000.

## OLE TIMERS'S REUNION

Thursday, September 20 is the date for the Real Estate Ole Timers' Reunion Luncheon. The reunion started 10 years ago and is the brainchild of **Bob Valva** of Valva Realty in Oakland. "It's an opportunity to get together with friends and industry acquaintances from the past," said Valva. "This reunion is a fun and easy way to catch up." Real Estate agents and affiliates from Berkeley, Oakland, Alameda and San Leandro, 55 and over are invited. Ole Timers are encouraged to bring friends and significant others. The luncheon begins at 11:30 a.m. with networking. The location is The Ark at Pier 29 Restaurant in Oakland at the foot of the Park Street Bridge. Lunch is by reservation only. To RSVP call Valva at 510-451-7317.

## NEED LICENSE RENEWAL OR BROKERS

**Duane Gomer Seminars** offer classes for DRE license renewal and broker license testing preparation. For anyone needing license renewal all 45 hours of DRE tests are available in half-day sessions. Courses and test preparation are offered for the brokers license state exam. To ask about class schedules and costs call 800-439-4909.

## CODE OF ETHICS CLASSES

A new class is required by the National Association of Realtors. "Ethics, Professional Conducts & The Real Estate Professional" is a three hour accredited class for real estate agents and brokers. This ethics class is not to be confused with the DRE mandatory ethics class. It must be completed within 6 months. The Bay East Association is presenting the class at The Englander in San Leandro, on July 26 at 9 a.m. For more information

contact **Linda Centoni** of North American Title in Hayward at 510-537-8300. For the Oakland Association of Realtors contact **Mary Walton** at 510-836-3000. At the Berkeley Association of Realtors ask for **Don Clark**, 510-848-4288. Contact **Kristen McMahon**, 510-523-7229 for the Alameda Association of Realtors.

## FOR

**Georgie Porgie Mini Golf**

The Affiliate Committee of the Bay East Association of Realtors presents the Third Annual Georgie Porgie's Mini Golf Tourney "Putt With Me." This tournament is a fund-raiser benefiting "Members Helping Members," a division of the B.E.A.R. Foundation. There are 18 holes of putting at the Golden Tee in Castro Valley, next Friday, July 20 beginning at 11:30 a.m.

Tickets include lunch and all ages are invited (adults without kids may play). There will be prizes, games and entertainment. The committee is looking for sponsors and raffle prizes. For tickets or more information call **Georgia Rittler** of Placer Title Company at 510-614-2965.

## BBO & Golf With BAR

Sign up now for the BAR Golf Tournament and Barbecue Dinner. The barbecue includes steak, chicken and the works. The tournament is at Tilden Park Golf Course in Berkeley on Friday, July 20. Play will be a scramble format with a shotgun start.

First, second and third place winners will receive cash prizes. To receive an informational flyer contact **Shawn Moore** of Old Republic Title at 510-527-4700 or **Steve Yoshimura** of Nakamura Realty at 510-848-4288.

## LAST CHANCE FOR BAY CRUISE

Today is the day for the WCR 4th Annual Bay Cruise & Networking Extravaganza. Hosted by the San Francisco Chapter, all area chapters are invited to attend.

This event is always a sellout, so make your reservation now. Boarding is at 2:45 p.m. on the Monte Carlo Yacht, Pier 33, San Francisco Bay, at Embarcadero and Bay. The cruise is from 3 to 6 p.m. For more information contact Chairperson **Betty Sun Wong** at 888-BETTY-WCR.

## MORTGAGE PROFESSIONALS

**CARL Hot August Nites**

The next meeting of the California Association of Residential



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Lenders is a theme party, "Hot August Nites". Members and their guests are asked to dress in '50s and '60s costume attire. The event is at the Crow Canyon Country Club on Thursday, Aug. 9, with a 5:30 start time. A barbecue buffet is included. Put on that poodle skirt or pegged jeans and give the CARL Hotline a call for reservations at 925-746-1847.

## CAMB

The California Association of Mortgage Brokers (CAMB) strives to keep mortgage professionals educated and informed.

A dinner meeting is held monthly, with guest speakers discussing timely topics. Networking Kicks off each CAMB meeting, held on the fourth Thursday of each month. To find out more call the CAMB Hotline is 925-275-2663.

## CARL Breakfast Club

Join the lively Wednesday Morning Breakfast Meetings, presented by the California Association of Residential Lenders (CARL). Meetings are held every Wednesday at American Title in Walnut Creek on Olympic Boulevard. Start time begins promptly at 8:15 a.m.

Breakfast refreshments are served. Need more information? Want to recommend a speaker? Call **Pat Johnson** of TRI Commercial Real Estate Services at 925-296-3300.

## WHO'S ON FIRST?

**David Gunderman** joined Kane & Associates Realtors as a sales associate. To say congrats, call Gunderman at 510-864-2024.

Someone new at your company? Something special your company is doing? Let me know. I'd love to let the world know. All my contact info is listed below.

## TELL ME??

I need your information for this column. Fund-raisers, meetings, announcements, promotions, designations and change of scenery (company).

I want to know it all. Information deadline is two weeks before the event.

There are three convenient ways to reach me. Or send an e-mail to **bobbierid@dotplanet.com**. Fax your info to me at 510-441-7191. Call me at 510-441-7190.

# Get proper permits before remodeling

**Q** We plan on moving in about six months and want to fix up our house for sale. My husband wants to re-do the kitchen and the bathroom and wants to do the work himself. Does he need to get permits? My brother who works for a contractor will be helping him. — E. A., East Bay



**JOHN SCHNEIDER**

**A** Remodeling a kitchen or bathroom usually does require a permit particularly if you change any of the plumbing or electrical, or make a structural modification. However, your question raises two concerns that I think you might not be aware of.

The first concern is that when you sell your house you are required to provide extensive disclosure information regarding any modifications to the property.

There are two specific questions on the Seller's Transfer Disclosure Form that ask whether modifications done to the house have been done with a permit, and whether the work was done to code. Both of these questions have to be answered truthfully and you must sign this document to verify its accuracy.

If unpermitted, or non code complying work was done to the property, and not disclosed, the seller may be liable for damages. So from this point of view, I would encourage everyone to obtain a permit whenever it is necessary, and to do the work in a code complying manner.

The second concern is that there is a little known law in California's Business and Professions Code that states that a home owner cannot obtain a permit for work done to prepare a house for sale. This can include any work that is done within the twelve months prior to the sale.

I spoke with Steve Pierce, a broker associate at Contempo Realty in Fremont, and a licensed California attorney. He said, "Sellers can perform some repairs themselves, but if a permit is required, only a

licensed contractor can do the work." The reason for this is to provide protection for the buyer.

Under the Contractor's License Law, municipalities that require permits for the construction, alteration or repair of a building must also require that the permit be only given to licensed contractors. There is, however, an exception to this.

Home owners can obtain a permit if they perform the work themselves or with their employees, and do not intend to sell the house within 12 months. When home owners do apply for a permit, they must sign a statement stating that this is so.

There is an important reason for restricting sellers from doing their own work. Contractors, by law, have to obtain permits for basically any work that they do. When contractors do perform work, they have to guarantee it for at least one year. These rules do not apply to home owners.

So if a home owner does some work on his house and then sells it within a year, the buyer has no specific recourse if the work turns out to be faulty.

This was a real problem in the late 1970s when the real estate market was booming. Investors were buying up houses, fixing them up and then selling them.

Often there was little regard to doing the work in a safe and code-complying manner. All they had to do was to make the house look good enough to re-sell.

This left many buyers stuck with problems that they then had to correct. In turn, this led to an increase in litigation between buyers and sellers.

See SCHNEIDER, Page B10

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**Oakland**

1517 Center St. Large Home PENDING finished basement, location needs lot

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830 Center St. High basement 3+ bedrooms, 1.5 bath Victorian with lots of original detail. Kitchen updated in the 70s. New tile staircase, original marble mantle in living room, and pocket doors. Brick fireplace. Call Teri Lee (510) 814-4706

**2426 Hilgard Avenue**

1350 24th St. Beautiful 4 bedroom, 2 bath home on one level! Dining area, fireplace, double garage, and low maintenance yard. Lorraine Ingeman (510) 814-4716

**Lafayette**

141 Castle Court Desirable Burton Valley updated home 4 bedrooms, 2 baths, gourmet kitchen, hardwood floors. Walk to school. Karin Ingeman (510) 814-4713

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Information deemed reliable but not guaranteed

**Vacant At Close**

**2426 Hilgard Avenue**

In prestigious North Berkeley, this elegant Tudor-style duplex features side-by-side 1+ bedroom apartments. They could be set up as comfortable 2 bedroom units, or a large single family home. This is a special property with lovely architectural details throughout. Large level backyard, spacious basement/workshop, newly painted, updated systems and more! You will enjoy the unique location close to "Gourmet Ghetto", U.C. Berkeley Campus, Northside shops and downtown BART.

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# Fremont Victorian farmhouse on market

COLDWELL BANKER

A Victorian-era farmhouse in Fremont with roots that date back to 1890 has come on the market. The property at 41467 Fremont Blvd., which is being listed by Coldwell Banker, is priced at \$699,000.

The Queen Anne-style house originally served as a dairy farm, although its first owners are not known. Fremont's Bab family lived in the house until it was purchased by the Bettencourt family in 1917.

The Bettencourts lived in the house with their two daughters and son, Charles. Charles Bettencourt remembers when his father would make wine for the neighborhood from the grapes off the arbor that extends along the north side of the house.

The driveway has not changed since the horses pulled their buggies into the circular drive. At that time, there was a milking barn located at the rear of the property along with a large water tower and a cistern next to the back of the house.

During the Great Depression, the Bettencourt family had to change the top portion of the house into an apartment, which they rented to their aunt.

Sometime after the Bettencourts moved, the historical home was occupied by Dr. Edmond Kaiser, a two-time candidate for California governor. Dr. Kaiser maintained his chiropractic office in the house with patients arriving through the tower doorway and waiting in what is now the main living room. The house sat abandoned for many years after the Kaiser family sold it.

The current owner purchased this Victorian-era home in 1997, saving it



**BUILT IN 1890, THIS VICTORIAN-ERA HOME OFFERS THE BEST OF BOTH WORLDS:** Queen Anne-style charm and modern amenities such as new insulation, plumbing, electrical systems, double-paned windows, central heating and air-conditioning on the top floor as well as phone jacks and cable television outlets.

from being replaced by several condominiums, and began restoring the property immediately.

During the reconstruction of this home, he discovered that the entire house was made of redwood, including the salvaged floors. The fireplace and mantel are original; as is the claw foot tub in the master bath and the front door.

A large country kitchen and sleeping porch were attached to the rear of the house, but were not rebuilt due to their poor condition.

The dining room has been remodeled back to the Victorian-era theme with wallpaper and a high ceiling; the library has two built-in cabinets and a built-in window seat.

Despite more than a century of owners, the floor plan has changed very little from the original layout.

There are more than 12 mature fruit trees on the property, including Sonoma plum, orange, pear, fig, walnut and peach trees. Two sets of garden lights show off the home and garden at night, including a

working fountain that was purchased at an antique auction.

The house has gone through the necessary modernization as well, including new insulation, plumbing, electrical systems and double-paned windows.

The house is supplied with central heating and air-conditioning on the top floor. There are phone jacks and cable television outlets in most rooms.

See VICTORIAN, Page B7

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**3144-3146 Bona Street**

This charming updated Tri-plex features a spacious 3+BR/1.5BA owner's unit plus a separate 2BR/1BA apt and a unique detached 1BR/1BA rear unit with a spiral staircase. Large level yard. Close to transportation. Great for Investor or Owner/Occupant.

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This unique property located with easy access to Emeryville and Berkeley features a spacious 2+BR, 1-1/2BA main house with a large updated kitchen and hwdw flrs. The property includes a separate 1BR/1BA unit and a det'd artist's studio/office in the rear.

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**Spectacular Contemporary Remodel W/Bay Views.....\$599,000**  
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# Wilson

FROM PAGE B1

means the restoration of a historic building's exterior and/or its interior to its original appearance, and then using the building to meet more current needs.

This can include reconverting the interior of an old building that was cut up into smaller spaces into one large space, or replacing missing architectural features in an old house and then opening that house to the public as a museum or other cultural resource center. The series will focus on three outstanding case studies of this trend, beginning with the restoration of the Antonio Peralta House in Oakland.

The Antonio Peralta House stands at 2465 34th Ave. in East Oakland. It is at the center of what was a 16,000-acre rancho that had been given to Antonio by his father, Luis Peralta. Luis Peralta, in turn, had been granted a huge tract of land by the King of Spain in 1820, which included all of what is now known as Albany, Berkeley, Emeryville, Oakland, Alameda, and San Leandro.

In the early 1820s, Antonio Peralta built an adobe house on his tract of land, about 100 feet north of where the current house stands. The 1820s Peralta adobe was the very first permanent house in what is now the city of Oakland. It is so important to the beginning of Oakland's history that historian Thomas Frye of the Oakland Museum recently labeled it "the birthplace of Oakland."

Antonio Peralta eventually fathered 14 children. So in 1840 he

needed to build a larger adobe near the original one to accommodate his expanding family. This bigger adobe was badly damaged by the powerful earthquake of 1868. Antonio decided to build a brand-new house for his family in the then-fashionable Victorian-era style known as Bracketed Italianate.

This two-story wooden house was built in 1870, and it had all the classic features of the Italianate style: round arched doorways and windows, a columned porch across the front, wooden brackets lining the cornice and a hipped roof. It had about 2,000 square feet, with a total of nine rooms and three baths. Antonio had to sell off much of his remaining land to raise enough money for the construction.

Antonio Peralta died in the house he had built in 1879. The Peralta family kept the house until 1897, when it was sold to a local real estate agent who then moved the structure a few dozen yards to its current site. Over the next 83 years, the house had 14 owners, all of whom rented it out. It was converted into four units in 1936.

Then the City of Oakland bought it in 1980 with the intention of restoring it and remodeling the interior into office space. The exterior was restored to be close to its original appearance, while the interior was partially renovated. But work was never finished on this project, and the house sat unused for many years.

Then in 1997, the voters of Oakland passed Measure I, a \$22 million dollar bond issue that provided funds for the restoration and adaptive reuse of park land historic sites in the city. From that money,



**FARMHANDS WORK AROUND ANTONIO PERALTA'S ADOBE, WHICH WAS DESTROYED IN A POWERFUL EARTHQUAKE** the morning of Oct. 21, 1868. Antonio replaced the dwelling with the two-story Italianate house visible through the trees. Recently restored to its original historic appearance, the house was recently opened to the public as a museum of Oakland and Fruitvale neighborhood history.

\$800,000 was allocated for the complete restoration of the Antonio Peralta House, and its conversion into history museum and cultural resource center. The firm of William Pierce Coburn and Kirk Peterson, were chosen to be the restoration architects for the project.

William Coburn has been active in Bay Area preservation work for over 20 years. He was president of the Oakland Heritage Alliance from 1991 to 1996 and the master plan architect for the Delaware Street historic condominium project in Berkeley in the 1980s.

His firm has done a lot of restoration work on historic houses in West Oakland during the past 20 years. Peterson and Coburn faced a challenging task in restoring the Antonio Peralta House, since it had been remodeled several times in the 20th century.

The construction budget for the restoration was \$500,000, and the construction manager was Lawrence Tadmey, from the San Francisco firm of Asian Neighborhood Design.

First, the research and design phase of the project took 18 months — the interior had been stripped of most of its historic features. Construction began in May 2000, and took 14 months to complete.

On the exterior, the old widow's walk balustrade that had originally crowned the roof was replaced, as were the louvered shutters on the side windows.

Inside, the two fireplaces were restored to working condition, with marble mantel pieces purchased elsewhere. Antique kerosene hanging light fixtures were set into the ceilings, after they were raised back to their original height from the 8-foot ceilings installed in an earlier remodeling.

Restoring the walls of the Antonio Peralta house was an extremely painstaking task. All of the original plaster-and-lath walls had been replaced with sheet rock during the 1980s remodel, so they had to be rebuilt. Then the colors of the walls and ceilings had to be chosen from the remaining primary evidence of paint residue on the site. Wherever this was not possible, the architects chose to duplicate colors from the restored Ignacio Peralta House in San Leandro, which was built in the same style just a decade earlier. When the Antonio Peralta House was finally restored to its original historic appearance in July, it was opened to the public as a museum of Oakland and Fruitvale neighborhood history.

The house will eventually be fully furnished with authentic period antiques of the kind that would have been found in a middle class house on the 1870s. The park around the house will be developed into a multi-use neighborhood resource center, while preserving the integrity of the natural environment.

To celebrate the culmination of all the hard work that went into this project, the Friends of the Peralta Hacienda Historic Park held an Opening Day Ceremony last Saturday.

Live music from Mexican mariachi bands, Mexican folk dancers, a local Romanian choir and home-cooked Mexican food were among the entertainments provided that day. There were also speeches by supporters of the restoration, including Oakland City Council President Ignacio de la Fuente and Holly Alonso, director of the project.

The most honored guests were several descendants of Antonio Peralta who are currently living in the Bay Area. They included Beverly Enz, Ken Talken, and Norma Peralta Ingersoll.

Norma is the great-great granddaughter of Antonio Peralta, and she had grown up in this Fruitvale neighborhood in the 1920s and '30s. Ironically, Norma told me that all the years she was growing up there, she used to pass the old family home her way to junior high and didn't realize it had anything to do with her, since no one ever told her its history.

An Oakland history teacher finally told her the full story of the old house. Of course, that is exactly the purpose of this restoration project — to preserve the irreplaceable treasures of our past and thereby teach the valuable lessons of history to future generations.

In part two of this series on historic conversions, I will examine how a popular East Bay restaurant — Saul's Jewish Delicatessen in North Berkeley — restored its historic building and expanded its eating space at the same time.

Mark A. Wilson is a Realtor and architectural historian who works at Prudential California Realty's Albany office. He can be reached at 510-273-9383. Visit him at [www.topbroker.com/wilson](http://www.topbroker.com/wilson).



**THE FIREPLACE IN THE PERALTA'S FRONT SITTING ROOM** has an authentic period marble mantel purchased to match the home's style.

## Victorian

FROM PAGE B6

The city of Fremont will be paying for roadway improvements around the home, including curbs, gutters and sidewalks, as well as replacing the entire overhead wiring with underground wires in September 2002.

A photo album has been maintained that documents the entire

construction process of the current owner. The original plans for the house are available, as well as the plans for a second apartment with a two car garage that can be placed on the back of the property.

Photos of the remodel are also available. The home has 2,278 square feet with a lot size of 16,035 square feet.

For more information on this unique property, contact Coldwell Banker's Robert Martin and Afarin Karimi at 510-608-7600.

## COMING ATTRACTION Richmond Annex

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INTERVIEW

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1696 Grand Avenue, Piedmont

large single level 2BR/2BA home close to transportation and schools. Good floor plan with large family room and extra storage. Leased at \$2,800 per mo.

25 Graeggle, Oakland

3BR/2.5BA, two level town home, striking Bay view, sun filled rooms, recently remodeled. Leased at \$2,650 per mo.



**Adam Betta**  
Office: 339.0400/251  
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The GRUBB Co.

Information deemed reliable but not guaranteed

## New Listing!

Open Sunday • July 22 • 2-4:30pm



6224 Viewcrest Drive, Oakland

Sparkling Ridgmont 4 bedroom, 3 bath home. The generous space and convenient floor plan is designed for easy living, entertaining, work and play.

4 Bedrooms/3 baths • Sunny eat-in kitchen • Large family rm  
Gracious master suite w/deck & luxurious bath • 2 fireplaces  
Custom built-ins • Spacious level yard, flagstone patio, & garden  
3 car garage • Community pool



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Offered at \$599,000

PACIFIC UNION

## New Montclair Listing!

Open Sunday • July 22 • 2-4:30pm



6089 Mazuela Drive, Oakland

Sensational newer home built in 1994 has Bay views from most rooms. There are 4+ bedrooms, 3.5 baths, home office, gourmet kitchen/family room and a large unfinished studio. Spacious decks connect the living, dining room and family room.



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(510) 414-4370



# Summer maintenance tips for homeowners

**PALM SPRINGS** — Summer is a good time for consumers to check the condition of their homes and keep up the appropriate maintenance that can lead to potential costly repairs and hazardous conditions if ignored, according to the California Real Estate Inspection Association (CREIA).

"Ongoing maintenance can save homeowners money and inconvenience," said George Harper, president of CREIA. Waiting to get your air conditioning serviced in the middle of August may take days and cost much more than taking regular preventative steps to maintain and protect the components and systems of your home.

Harper lists the following maintenance steps during the summer months as a way of keeping a home in prime condition:

## Exterior

■ **Decks and patios** — Since wet and cold winters take a toll on wood decks, check your decks to determine if new paint is needed, hammer down any nails that have popped up, and secure any loose supports.

You should consider applying a water sealant that can help improve the longevity of your wood decks. Also, examine patios, walks and drives for cracks. Consider resurfacing or filling any cracks to avoid water intrusion, which can cause lifting.

■ **Fences** — Look for loose or broken posts and check all safety latches, especially around pool areas.

■ **Sprinkler systems** — Monitor your sprinkler system for leaks around pipe joints and the anti-siphon valves. Test sprinklers for full coverage of the landscape grounds while adjusting them to ensure water does not hit the house. You may also want to adjust your sprinkler timers for daylight savings.

■ **Windows** — Look for glazing putty that has dried out around windows of older homes. Glazing putty should be redone to properly seal the window frames and conserve energy during the warm summer months.

■ **Roofs** — Inspect your roof from the ground for any missing material and signs of aging or weathering such as severe cracking and brittleness.

Roof penetrations and flashing can dry out from long exposure to the extreme sun and cold weather. If these signs are present, you should consider repairs in these areas. Also, have the roof and gutters cleared of debris.

■ **Garage doors** — Examine the springs on tilt-up garage doors and tracks, as well as the hinges on roll-up doors. Check the safety reverse system on automatic garage door openers by using a roll of paper towels. The garage should reverse within two seconds of contact. You should do this safety check once a month.

■ **Pools/spas** — Look over swimming pool slides for cracks, broken supports, broken ladder or slide and/or ruptured water lines. Ensure that the diving board is supported well on the deck and test the board to see if it is rigid or pliable. Examine all pool/spa valves and gates to see if they turn freely and are lubricated properly.

Check your pool/spa for water clarity and make sure the equipment is operating properly. Be sure to have all electrical connections of the pool/spa equipment inspected for potential electrical hazards. Pool heaters should be reviewed by a professional before starting up the system.

## Interior

■ **Air conditioning and heating systems** — Air conditioning systems should be serviced by a professional. Air filters on the fan unit of the air condition and heating system should be changed every two to three months.

■ **Ventilation** — Check that vent systems and turbine are clear and turning. Homeowners who cover the turbines on their roofs with plastic during the rainy season often forget to take them off.

■ **Fireplace** — Summer is a good time to get the flu cleaned by a chimney sweep. Gas fireplaces should be inspected annually by a certified gas technician with expertise in fireplaces.

■ **Ceiling fans** — Check that ceiling fans are properly secured. Often wiring for ceiling fans are left in disarray. Wiring in the attic should be in a junction box with colored wire nuts placed on the connections.

■ **Smoke and carbon monoxide detectors** — All detectors should be tested regularly. If needed, batteries should be replaced.

Summer is a good time for consumers to check the condition of their homes and keep up the appropriate maintenance that can lead to potential costly repairs and hazardous conditions if ignored.

"Homeowners should also consider a professional inspection to identify conditions that may have developed over time and may not be visible to the untrained eye," said Harper.

An inspection report, can alert homeowners to items which are most significant and in need of immediate attention, as well as which deferred maintenance items will need to be corrected before becoming more costly to repair or a high priority safety issue, he added.

It's important that homeowners hire a qualified home inspector for an unbiased assessment.

"Buyers should be skeptical of home inspectors who offer to repair items outlined in their report since they would have a vested interest and may not offer an objective opinion," advised Harper.

"While not common, this practice has been considered a conflict of interest by CREIA and is now prohibited in California according to the Business and Professions Code Section 87.197."

Since 1976, the California Real Estate Inspection Association (CREIA), a non-profit corporation has been providing education, training, and support services to the real estate inspection industry and to the public.

Inspectors must adhere to CREIA's Code of Ethics and follow the Standards of Practice developed by the association. CREIA requires its members to successfully pass a written test of property systems and complete 30 hours of education each year.

CREIA is dedicated to consumer protection and education. To locate a qualified CREIA inspector near you, call the CREIA referral line at 800-388-8443, or visit the CREIA Web site at [www.CREIA.com](http://www.CREIA.com).



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1018 ADELPHI  
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PRICE REDUCTION \$469,000.

**1021 DORIS COTT**  
3 Bed, 2 Bath, 1500 sqft  
PRICE REDUCTION \$369,500

**336 GALWAY BAY**  
Open Sun, 2-4, Geronia model, 3 Bedrooms/2.5 bath at Costa Brava. \$559,000

**OAKLAND**  
**7308 ALTURA PLACE**  
Lot size: Approx. 14,450 sqft  
PRICE REDUCTION \$335,500

**NEW LISTING:**  
**614 WEBSTER ST., IN OAKLAND**  
Chinatown, Multi-Use Building, Retail/Office/Light Mfg./Residential. This outstanding 3 story bldg. was previously used as a sewing factory. It is zoned: C-51. Approx. 5825 sqft. Bldg. \$990,000

**SAN LEANDRO**  
**NEW LISTING:**  
**14180, COUNTRY CLUB DR.**  
2 Bed, 2 Bath, 1500 sqft level unit at Marina Seagate \$285,000

**NEW LISTING:**  
**13867 SEAGATE DR.**  
3 Bedroom, 2.5 bath townhome at Marina Seagate. \$349,000

# Home office selections appeal to all generations

**PR NEWswire**  
**HIGH POINT, N.C., July 6** — With more and more workers setting up shop at home, consumers looking for home office furniture will find extensive selections to suit a range of tastes and generations, from the most classic traditional to the sleekest 21st century modern.

"Furniture manufacturers recognize that home offices come in a variety of shapes and sizes, and they are developing products accordingly," said Jackie Hirschhaut, vice president at the American Furniture Manufacturers Association (AFMA).

"Because the category has become so popular and is growing so rapidly, manufacturers are focusing on home office with abundant new selections."

Particularly refreshing at the spring International Home Furnishings Market here in April were the new designs targeted to younger consumers, she noted.

"Because Generations X and

Y have grown up with technology and the concept of offices at home, they are ideal consumers for home office furnishings," said Hirschhaut.

"A number of manufacturers have responded with fresh new designs targeted specifically to these young consumers. Prices are affordable, styling is sleek and function is paramount."

Manufacturers still realize, however, that regardless of the high-tech needs of home offices, many consumers still want a classic traditional look. Shoppers will find plenty of traditional selections in their local stores, as well as contemporary and transitional styles.

Exclusive AFMA research shows that while nearly one-third of American households have a home office, many consumers don't have a separate room to devote to their home office.

They are setting up work spaces in rooms such as the family room, bedroom or kitchen

Because Generations X and Y have grown up with technology and the concept of offices at home, they are ideal consumers for home office furnishings.

Jackie Hirschhaut, vice president, American Furniture Manufacturers Association

and therefore need home office furnishings that will complement their existing decor.

They also want furnishings that will allow them to work and play in comfort and style and that will accommodate fast-changing technology.

Home office furniture shoppers will find that most offerings, regardless of price range, sport an abundance of storage options for computers, printers, files, CDs and such, as well as adjustable shelves, wire management systems, and pull-out keyboard and mouse trays.

"Consumers will have fun shopping at their local stores for

home office furnishings," said Hirschhaut.

"Never before has there been such an outstanding selection of creative, stylish and highly functional pieces for the home worker. And prices truly cover the gamut, with something for every budget."

The American Furniture Manufacturers Association is headquartered in High Point, N.C. — the furniture capital of the world — and represents more than 350 leading U.S. furniture manufacturers. These manufacturers represent a total of 150,000 employees and more than 75 percent of U.S. furniture shipments.

# Protect your outdoor valuables

**PR NEWswire**  
**MILWAUKEE, June 21** — Summer is a great time to be casual. Unfortunately, though, that casual mindset often extends to a lax attitude about security — especially property that spends the season outdoors. Items like patio furniture, lawn and garden equipment, and even boat trailers become easy targets for thieves when left unsecured and out in the open during the summer.

Which is why summer is a good time to think about securing those valuables. Master Lock Company, a leader in security related products, recommends that homeowners keep all garages, sheds, gates and fences closed and locked with high quality padlocks.

Padlocks are an easy, economical way to protect your property and well worth the investment, when you add up the replacement cost of items kept outdoors. For additional security tips, visit [www.masterlock.com](http://www.masterlock.com)

The cost of outdoor valuables can add up quickly. Consider the costs for these items:

■ Aluminum patio set starts at \$300, with higher-end sets going for two or three times that.

■ Deluxe gas grills can go for upwards of \$450.

■ Molded plastic playground sets often top \$250.

■ A rotary push mower is priced at more than \$100.

■ Power mowers start at \$160 and can easily surpass \$400.

■ Riding mowers and lawn tractors begin at around \$1,200 and often exceed \$2,500.

■ Hedge trimmers, weedeaters and edgers range from \$30 to \$150 apiece.

■ Hoses, reels, sprinklers and garden tools can add up to hundreds of dollars.

A solid choice to secure these valuables is Master Lock's NT Padlock, from the Titanium Series, which is strong enough to resist tampering from crowbars and bolt cutters. Its ABS bumper provides scratch protection and gear-driven rotary shackle make it sleek and attractive, and its sliding keyway cover protects the lock from dirt and corrosion.


Master Lock suggests securing lawn mowers with a strong shrouded chain lock or cable lock. The company also makes a variety of trailer hitch locks and couplers that thwart thieves.

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Copy & Artwork	Open Home Guide
<b>TUESDAY, 12 Noon</b>	<b>WEDNESDAY, 12 Noon</b>

**NEW LISTING**  
Open Sunday July 22nd 2-5  
**Upper Rockridge Cape Cod Charm**



**6009 Romany Road**  
Storybook 4 Bedroom 3 Bath Cape Cod in bucolic setting. Lovely hardwood floors, inviting eat-in kitchen with fireplace, family room with French doors leading out to lovely backyard and large living room with fireplace. This is a very special home.

*Offered at \$849,000*


**TERRY KULKA**  
510-339-4780 **COLDWELL BANKER**

*New Listing*  
*Open hours 1-4 pm...*  
*July 22, 29th*

*Sunny 3 Bedrooms, 2 Bath appealing home, has a good floor plan. It offers a formal dining room, eat in kitchen, one car garage. There is a large yard great for kids and gardening.*

*All this at an affordable \$345,000.*


*All information deemed reliable but not guaranteed*



**1543 Julia St. Berkeley**

*Rayne Palmer*  
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Voice mail 510. 644. 5872  
[raynepalmer@aol.com](mailto:raynepalmer@aol.com)

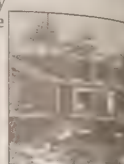
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Open Sunday 2-4

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*Offered at \$729,000*

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**July 22nd. & 29th. 2-4 p.m.**



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**921 Santa Fe Avenue**

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WEEKLY SALES

ALAMEDA

1439 1st St - \$215,000  
1630 Alameda Av - \$400,000  
2230 1st St - \$438,000  
2300 1st St - \$180,000  
3030 Alameda Av - \$325,000  
3030 Alameda Av - \$699,000  
3030 Alameda Av - \$505,000  
3030 Alameda Av - \$360,000  
3030 Alameda Av - \$470,000  
3030 Alameda Av - \$377,000  
3030 Alameda Av - \$290,000  
3030 Alameda Av - \$249,000  
3030 Alameda Av - \$395,000

BERKELEY

1439 1st St - \$320,000  
1439 1st St - \$402,000  
1439 1st St - \$400,000  
1439 1st St - \$555,000  
1439 1st St - \$555,000  
1439 1st St - \$450,000  
1439 1st St - \$315,000  
1439 1st St - \$481,000  
1439 1st St - \$675,000  
1439 1st St - \$555,000  
1439 1st St - \$275,000  
1439 1st St - \$410,000  
1439 1st St - \$940,000  
1439 1st St - \$699,000  
1439 1st St - \$371,500  
1439 1st St - \$684,000

CERRITO

1439 1st St - \$475,000  
1439 1st St - \$485,000  
1439 1st St - \$800,000  
1439 1st St - \$425,000  
1439 1st St - \$320,000  
1439 1st St - \$526,000  
1439 1st St - \$330,000  
1439 1st St - \$528,000  
1439 1st St - \$470,000  
1439 1st St - \$466,000  
1439 1st St - \$438,000  
1439 1st St - \$411,000

CONCORD

1439 1st St - \$242,000  
1439 1st St - \$340,000

EMERYVILLE

1439 1st St - \$242,000  
1439 1st St - \$340,000

OAKLAND

1459 103rd Av - \$220,000  
1903 23rd Av - \$285,000  
2036 23rd Av - \$250,000  
2521 24th Av - \$240,000  
2538 26th Av - \$237,000  
3400 28th St - \$285,000  
2275 35th Av - \$369,000  
3236 36th Av - \$240,000  
459 38th St - \$652,000  
1606 47th Av - \$175,000  
3032 57th Av - \$380,000  
825 57th St - \$475,000  
1206 60th Av - \$172,500  
1946 62nd Av - \$190,000  
364 62nd St - \$650,000  
1464 71st Av - \$450,000  
1229 77th Av - \$70,000  
2604 77th Av - \$135,000  
1327 83rd Av - \$150,000  
1207 91st Av - \$152,000  
1336 95th Av - \$115,000  
1931 99th Av - \$195,000  
2564 99th Av - \$250,000  
7884 Arthur St - \$235,000  
9407 B St - \$245,000  
4655 Benevides - \$369,000  
5343 Broadway Tr. 204 - \$200,000  
5463 Broadway - \$535,000  
1820 Clemens Rd - \$701,000  
7021 Colton Bl - \$630,000  
6215 Crown Av - \$365,000  
2327 Dashedwood Av - \$221,500  
3031 Davis St - \$450,000  
5942 East 17th St - \$199,500  
931 East 23rd St - \$100,000  
2524 East 27th St - \$200,000  
930 East 28th St - \$360,000  
9504 East St - \$235,500  
1125 Excelsior Av - \$430,000  
6037 Fairlane Dr - \$895,000  
6045 Fairlane Dr - \$642,000  
6365 Fairlane Dr - \$1,300,000  
2015 Filbert St - \$194,000  
1910 Foothill Bl - \$215,000  
5579 Fremont St - \$350,000  
3374 Guido St - \$415,000  
4087 Harding Wy - \$445,000  
2710 Havenscourt Bl - \$200,000  
3825 High St #209 - \$235,000  
6232 Hillmont Dr - \$197,000  
550 Jean St - \$462,000  
3568 Kempton Wy - \$405,000  
10322 Knight St - \$191,000  
3915 Laguna Av - \$400,000  
151 Lakeside Dr - \$98,000  
325 Lenox Av #108 - \$215,000  
3910 Loma Vista Av - \$275,000  
3631 Lyon Av - \$315,000  
5219 MacArthur Bl - \$310,000  
3605 Majestic Av #B - \$225,000  
3712 Market St - \$200,000  
430 Modoc Av - \$1,200,000

4944 Mountain Bl - \$598,000  
750 Mountain Bl - \$685,000  
6162 Oakdale Av - \$373,500  
7653 Outlook Av - \$155,000  
444 Panoramic Wy - \$200,000  
10830 Pearmain St - \$170,000  
3511 Penniman Av - \$205,000  
4849 Proctor Av - \$725,000  
4622 Redwood Rd - \$525,000  
4158 Shafter Av - \$410,000  
4722 Shetland Av - \$340,000  
8288 Skyline Cr - \$664,500  
6804 Snake Rd - \$425,000  
9849 St. Elmo Dr - \$175,000  
78 Strathmoor Dr - \$1,026,000  
3323 Suter St - \$275,000  
2835 Sylhowe Rd - \$585,000  
3827 West St - \$177,000  
7265 Wild Currant - \$629,000  
1037 Willow St - \$255,000  
1845 Woodhaven Wy - \$400,000  
5915 Zinn Dr - \$335,000

PIEDMONT

51 Craig Av - \$1,350,000  
157 Haggar Av - \$928,000  
1827 Oakland Av - \$685,000

RICHMOND

641 12th St - \$187,000  
1000 24th St - \$190,500  
537 25th St - \$175,000  
655 33rd St - \$236,000  
637 34th St - \$280,000  
951 35th St - \$289,000  
436 41st St - \$252,000  
551 44th St - \$184,000  
1724 4th St - \$176,000  
1822 5th St - \$165,000  
2610 Andrade Av - \$219,000  
5105 Buckboard Wy - \$425,000  
1754 Costa Av - \$185,000  
2515 Groveview Dr - \$247,500  
6308 Jerilyn Av - \$389,500  
3045 Keith Dr - \$265,000  
3128 Manzanita Ct - \$335,000  
2334 Maricopa Av - \$325,000  
1510 Olive Av - \$265,000  
502 Pennsylvania Av - \$226,000  
599 Rock Rose Wy - \$427,000  
343 South 26th St - \$162,000  
1338 South 57th St - \$200,000

434 Spring St - \$155,000  
5917 Tehama Av - \$365,000  
1821 Tulare Av - \$225,000  
2801 Tulare Av - \$214,000

SAN LEANDRO

1438 141st Av - \$320,000  
700 Bancroft Av - \$370,000  
916 Bridge Rd - \$425,000  
1349 Burkhardt Av - \$320,000  
1943 Cleveland St - \$325,000  
1327 Cumberland Av - \$370,000  
1225 Dartmouth Av - \$280,000  
15008 Dewey St - \$260,000  
15392 Edgemore St - \$317,000  
760 Frederick Rd - \$230,000  
15203 Hardin St - \$365,000  
15085 Hesperian #27 - \$185,000  
15365 Inverness St - \$380,000  
16622 Kildare Dr - \$202,000  
669 Lee Av - \$495,000  
1036 Marquette Wy - \$282,000  
1655 Oriole Av - \$247,000  
16545 Rolando Av - \$370,000  
13862 Samoa Rd - \$316,000  
2471 Sitka St - \$265,000  
16688 Winding Bl - \$350,000

SAN LORENZO

822 Mooney Av - \$305,000  
65 Paseo Grande - \$280,000  
15610 Tracy St - \$255,000  
17030 Via Anacapa - \$306,500  
17497 Via Estrella - \$250,000  
16062 Via Pinal - \$315,000  
17595 Wickman Pl - \$250,000

By the numbers

ALAMEDA

TOTAL SALES: 13  
PRICE: \$250,000

LOWEST PRICE \$180,000  
HIGHEST PRICE \$699,000  
MEDIAN PRICE \$377,000  
AVERAGE PRICE \$377,154

ALBANY

TOTAL SALES: 2  
LOWEST PRICE \$427,000  
HIGHEST PRICE \$600,000  
AVERAGE PRICE \$513,500

EMERYVILLE

TOTAL SALES: 17  
LOWEST PRICE \$275,000  
HIGHEST PRICE \$840,000  
MEDIAN PRICE \$450,000  
AVERAGE PRICE \$495,441

EMERYVILLE

TOTAL SALES: 12  
LOWEST PRICE \$320,000  
HIGHEST PRICE \$800,000  
AVERAGE PRICE \$472,833

EL SOBRANTE

TOTAL SALES: 1  
PRICE: \$250,000

EMERYVILLE

TOTAL SALES: 2  
LOWEST PRICE \$242,000  
HIGHEST PRICE \$340,000  
AVERAGE PRICE \$291,000

EMERYVILLE

TOTAL SALES: 84  
LOWEST PRICE \$70,000  
HIGHEST PRICE \$1,300,000  
AVERAGE PRICE \$363,464

PIEDMONT

TOTAL SALES: 3  
LOWEST PRICE \$685,000  
HIGHEST PRICE \$1,350,000  
MEDIAN PRICE \$928,000  
AVERAGE PRICE \$987,667

PIEDMONT

TOTAL SALES: 27  
LOWEST PRICE \$155,000  
HIGHEST PRICE \$427,000  
MEDIAN PRICE \$226,000  
AVERAGE PRICE \$250,537

SAN LEANDRO

TOTAL SALES: 21  
LOWEST PRICE \$185,000  
HIGHEST PRICE \$495,000  
MEDIAN PRICE \$320,000  
AVERAGE PRICE \$318,286

SAN LORENZO

TOTAL SALES: 7  
LOWEST PRICE \$250,000  
HIGHEST PRICE \$315,000  
MEDIAN PRICE \$280,000  
AVERAGE PRICE \$280,214

This list was compiled for publication in Hills Newspapers by TitleTech of Oakland which obtains weekly records from the county recorder's office. Neither company guarantees accuracy or completeness of the information. Sales prices are estimated based upon applicable county transfer taxes. All questions regarding this information and any requests for additional listings and services provided by TitleTech should be directed to Bud Gorham at 510-568-7233 or TitleNotes@aol.com.

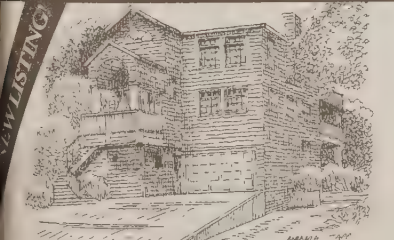
To contact the real estate editor call 510-748-1655 or e-mail devanosky@cctimes.com



Offered at \$340,000  
Milton Dollar View!  
Dance Mediterranean with cathedral ceiling in living room, formal dining room, 10'x10' kitchen, level patio and play yard. Panoramic view from deck from Mt. Diablo, Golden Gate & Bay Bridge, San Francisco and down to the South Bay!  
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Formal dining room  
Living room with vaulted ceiling  
Wrap around deck for indoor/outdoor living  
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2550 Dana Street (at Parker)  
\$91,000

Studio apartment with northern light. \$5,000 credit for paint and carpet. Security building with elevator and friendly maintenance staff. Walk to UC campus activities + shuttle to North Berkeley Senior Center.

Kathryn Hill  
Real Estate Broker  
THORNWALL Properties  
(510) 848-1950 x242

NEW LISTING

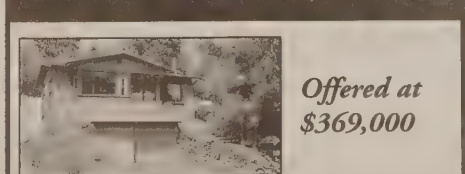
Glass/Sabine is Proud to Announce a New Listing At  
758 Kingston #303 — Piedmont Ave. District

You will be delighted with this sophisticated condominium nestled in a park like setting. This relaxed and light filled oasis offers the very best in easy living with a flavor of casual elegance.  
• 2 bedrooms  
• 2 baths  
• Cozy fireplace  
• Formal dining room  
• Large chef's kitchen

Walking distance to the many fine shops & restaurants on Piedmont Ave.  
Open this Sunday July 22, 2-4:30p.m.  
visit our web site at www.gs-t.com or call us directly at 510-326-5055

JUDITH GLASS  
510.326.7929  
SHEILA SABINE  
510.326.5055  
Glass Sabine  
FINE HOMES SPECIALISTS  
PRUDENTIAL CALIFORNIA REALTY

COMING SOON



Offered at \$369,000  
Nestled on a quiet cul-de-sac, adjacent to eighty acres of open space called King Estates Park, this three bedroom bungalow offers extraordinary privacy as well as close proximity to San Francisco and the South Bay. Features include an updated kitchen that opens to a new redwood deck, a remodeled bath, and a light filled living room that offers views of the surrounding hills. Once part of a horse farm called Minglewood Farms, the home sits on almost an acre of land punctuated by lovely gardens and fruit trees.  
Candy Benny  
Senior Sales Associate  
Bus: (510) 339-6460 x328  
Visit us at www.pacunion.com  
PACIFIC UNION

3875 Coolidge Avenue  
(at Carmel)  
OPEN SUN 2-4  
Oakland's Upper Laurel District. Drenched in 1930's charm! Great neighborhood for sunset walks!  
\$349,000  
Kathryn Hill  
Real Estate Broker  
THORNWALL Properties  
(510) 848-1950 x242

Open Sunday 2-4:30  
New Listing  
160 Moss Way, Oakland  
Charming Victorian cottage in desirable location close to coffee, movies & cafes. Updated kitchen & bath. Wood floors, fireplace, decks and gardens.  
Offered at \$299,000  
Donna DeBardi  
Office: 339.0400/206 The GRUBB Co.  
Residence: 251.2274  
GRUBBCO.COM  
Information deemed reliable but not guaranteed

JUST LISTED IN ROCKRIDGE

Open Sunday July 22, 2-4:30 p.m.

6445 Benvenue Ave, Oakland  
Charming Brown Shingle single family home, plus 1 bedroom and studio units in rear is located on sought after street just one block below College Avenue. The main house offers 4 bedrooms, plus den and 2 baths, formal living and dining rooms, hardwood floors, glassed in porch and eat in kitchen. A patio provides a perfect separation between the house and the income units and a small, private garden and patio offer outdoor additional outdoor space for the units.  
Price Upon Request

Patricia Scott Winslow  
Senior Sales Consultant  
Bus: (510) 339-6460 ext. 315  
Visit us at www.pacunion.com  
PACIFIC UNION



## Schneider

FROM PAGE B5

Today, most homes that are for sale, have inspections that are ordered by the buyer. Home inspectors routinely find problems with unpermitted work that has been done on homes. And because these problems were not previously disclosed, the buyer is often in a position to legally have the seller make the necessary corrections.

This puts the seller at a tremendous disadvantage. Once in contract, the seller usually does not

have the options of correcting the condition that he or she would have had otherwise. Usually there is a very short time frame within which all repairs have to be preformed, and often the repairs can cost more than the original job.

I would strongly recommend that you consider using licensed contractors for the work and insist that they obtain permits for all work that is being done. Also make sure that your contractor calls for the rough and final inspections from the city to ensure that the work is done in a code-

complying manner. Believe me, it is easier to do this at your convenience rather than under the pressure of contractual agreements. Good luck on your job.

John R. Schneider is a licensed general building contractor and a certified residential code specialist. He is president of All About Homes, a residential inspection company, and has been performing code and construction consultations since 1985. Readers may address their comments to John Schneider, 24326 Mission Blvd., Suite 7, Hayward, CA 94544

## Save on electric bill every time you turn on a light

PR NEWswire

DES PLAINES, Ill., June 21 — You can reduce your electric bill and minimize the inconvenience of replacing light bulbs, all while you are helping protect our environment.

A new line of energy-saving light bulbs consumes 75 to 80 percent less energy than regular incandescent bulbs and last eight to 10 times as long. The Energy-Lite bulbs from LightMart, Inc. are available at [www.energy-lite.com](http://www.energy-lite.com) (or call 800-443-8254).

"Due to the unique nature of these compact fluorescent bulbs, a much lower wattage can achieve the same brightness as a much higher incandescent bulb wattage," says Sami Ozgen, President of LightMart. In addition to the lower energy costs, the lower energy consumption results in reduced polluting emissions from energy plants, Ozgen says. This helps protect the environment from global warming and air pollution.

"The combination of the signifi-

cantly reduced energy use by the fact consumers place their bulbs in sockets and light bulbs. The light bulbs are compact fluorescent bulbs, which convert energy into heat and light. LightMart offers a wide variety of compact fluorescent bulbs and ballasts. The line has been a great success for LightMart, which benefits the customers in many ways. Ozgen says.

## WELLS &amp; BENNETT 531-7000 REALTORS

## OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30

**132 Beechwood Dr.**.....\$1,950,000  
Elegant Mediterranean villa in Claremont. 4BR/4BA, gracious living room and large formal dining room. Gourmet kitchen with breakfast area, and adjacent family room. All patios, pool, study, luxurious. Master suite with fireplace and sitting room, level yard area, and a balcony to take in the lovely views of San Francisco and the Bay.  
**Peter Nicolopoulos 339-9780**

**50 Pine Hills Ct.**.....\$899,000  
New construction Montclair! Quiet cul-de-sac across from Skyline Gate/Redwood Trails. 4BD/3.5BA. Coved ceilings, three fireplaces.  
**David Hennigan 601-9540**

**1839 Northwood Ct.**.....\$895,000  
Lovely new Mediterranean home with lots of views of San Francisco and Golden Gate. 4BD/2.5BA, home office, gourmet kitchen, great deck.  
**Mary Neuberger 530-4148**

**233 Mather Street.**.....\$476,000  
First time on the market in years! 3BD/1BA, fireplace, hardwood floors, 2-car garage & yard. Great potential. Near Piedmont Avenue & transportation.  
**Kevin P. Kennedy ext. 204**

**1334 Grand Avenue - Piedmont.**.....\$429,000  
Spacious home in convenient area with flexible floor plan. 3BD/2BA, family room, den/office, large eat-in kitchen, 2-car garage, and patio. Built in 1956, it offers 1874 square feet of living space. Deep-carpeted yard with lots of sun. Freshly painted and new carpet. Walk to shops, transportation, and elementary school. A great value!  
**Christ Christensen ext. 242**

**4444 Park Blvd.**.....\$349,000  
Two plus bedroom unit in the heart of Glenview, near everything, original architecture detail. Large living & dining room, PP in living room, built-ins in dining room.  
**Patsy Buhler 287-5910**

## OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30

**2924 Maxwell Avenue.**.....\$349,000  
Maxwell Park - very sunny & charming 3BD, freshly painted in & out, refinished hardwood floors, newly remodeled eat-in kitchen, bonus room, attached garage, deck & large level yard.  
**Kate Phillips 436-4100**

**151 Temescal Circle.**.....\$339,000  
Emeryville's best kept secret! Sophisticated 3BD/2BA - townhouse w/fireplace surrounded by lush green trees and mature landscaping. A true urban oasis close to shops & restaurants. EZ commute to S.F.  
**Heidi Tuggle 531-4554**

**4119 Manila Avenue.**.....\$249,500  
Just listed! 2BD/1BA built in 1913 with great potential in popular Temescal neighborhood. Hardwood floors, fireplace. Walk to Piedmont Avenue. Sold "AS-IS."  
**Don Dunning 482-2256**

**91 Emery Bay Drive.**.....\$219,000  
Sunny and bright top floor condo with fireplace in serene lush green setting amidst the hustle and bustle of busy Emeryville. Walk to CHIRON or shuttle bus to BART. Close to any commute, shops & restaurants.  
**Heidi Tuggle 531-4554**

## BY APPOINTMENT

**Gorgeous New Home - Entertainer's Dream.**.....\$1,295,000  
Flawlessly crafted new home with lovely views of the Golden Gate Bridge and surrounding bay. Grand, open floorplan includes 3+ bedrooms, 3 baths, incredible kitchen, great suite/media room and a fabulous wine cellar and tasting room.  
**Mary Neuberger 530-4148**

**A "Must-See" in Montclair.**.....\$849,500  
New Construction. Premium quality 3+BD/3BA. Great greenbelt location yet minutes to Montclair Village. Deluxe kitchen, elegant formal dining, media room, office.  
**Peter Nicolopoulos 339-9780**

## BY APPOINTMENT



**Crocker Highlands Cosmetic Fixer.**.....\$429,000  
Enjoy this 2+BD/2BA close to Grand Lakeside. Great kitchen, living room with fireplace, dining area, and extra large lot double garage.  
**Carol Robbiano ext. 201**



**Maxwell Park.**.....\$349,000  
Country living in Maxwell Park! Spacious 3BD/2BA, 2-car garage for "no-law", family room, office or additional space, gorgeous hwd floors, wonderful colorful gardens surround property & more!  
**Kate Phillips 436-4100**



**Starter Condo.**.....\$129,000  
In good building near Piedmont/Grand Avenue shopping & transportation. 1BD/1BA, 1 car garage, great view, perfect for pied-a-terre.  
**Wendy Callaghan ext. 201**

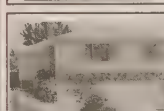


**Capture Lush Canyon Views!**.....\$729,000  
Three contiguous upslope lots for development. Consider common driveway for three homes. Great views, excellent location.  
**Carol Robbiano ext. 201**

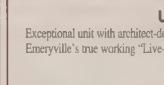
## COMING SOON



**Adams Point.**.....\$429,000  
3+ Bedrooms, 1.5 bath in lovely formal home with over 2000 sqft. Great yard, fruit & citrus trees in back. New exterior & exterior paint. Excellent location.  
**Patsy Buhler 287-5910**



**Lincoln Heights.**.....\$429,000  
1+BD Large home, beautiful hwd floors PP in living room, views from many rooms, plus room can be family/office or large office.  
**Patsy Buhler 287-5910**



**Upgraded Besler Bldg. Loft.**.....\$299,000  
Exceptional unit with architect-designed mezzanine, "Bedroom" and study. Great space in one of Emeryville's true working "Live-work" buildings.  
**Peter Nicolopoulos**

**1451 LEIMERT BLVD., OAKLAND 531-7000**

**WALNUT CREEK (925) 938-8484 www.wellsandbennett.com**

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FIND OUR LISTINGS ON THE INTERNET! <http://www.bhrr.com>

## Open Sunday 7/22/01

**MONTCLAIR.**.....\$1,185,000  
Beautiful contemporary, Perillo design, fab. views, flat yard, 4000 sq. ft., 4 Bd/3.5 Ba, Close to S.F. Must see. Sellers motivated.  
8050 Broadway Terrace  
**Laurel Strand 510-339-8400**

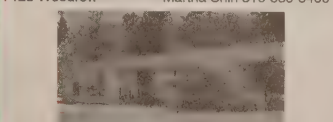


**HOME PLUS ADJACENT LOT.**.....\$775,000  
Own this 3 yr old contemp. with 4 BR & loft, 3+ bath, FDR, gorgeous gourmet kitchen/family rm combo. Lot measures 60 x 125 approx.  
6400 Longcroft  
**Noni Robinson 510-339-8400**

**ELEGANT POOLSIDE LIVING.**.....\$739,000  
Can be yours in this private & secluded Berkeley Hills home just walking distance to beautiful Tilden Park! Offering an open family rm, lge great rm combining kitchen and living rm w/fp and levels out to the lge backyard w/ beautiful gardens & pool  
739 Woodhaven Rd., Berkeley  
**Nahid Nassiri 510-339-8400**



**PRICE REDUCED 60K.**.....\$689,000  
Dramatic contemp. in Montclair, Tahoe setting, serene & private. App. 3000 sq ft. 20 yrs old. FDR, Family Rm/Kitchen combo. Walk to village.  
7125 Woodrow  
**Martha Shin 510-339-8400**



**LIVE YOUR DREAMS.**.....\$650,000  
...on One Full Acre of sprawling grounds including creek, duck pond, barn, and riding rink. Minutes to Lake Chabot for boating and fishing, walk to Lake Chabot Golf Course, or just enjoy the serenity of your paradise!  
11344 Golf Links Road  
**Mary Jane McConville 510-339-8400**

## Open Sunday 7/22/01

**BAKE WITH YOUR OWN FRUIT.**.....\$650,000  
...From the mature fruit trees in your orchard in the charming kitchen with tile counters and dining area. Relax next to the creek, or take a stroll to Lake Chabot Golf Course. Revel in the openness and let life's stresses float away in this three bedroom plus one bedroom au-pair ranch hacienda on one full acre of land.  
11310 Golf Links Road  
**Mary Jane McConville 510-339-8400**



**AN ABSOLUTE TREASURE.**.....\$595,000  
Offering Bay views from almost every rm of this stunning custom hm. Bright and spacious w/dramatic lvg rm, lge family rm w/marble fp, gourmet kitchen, & lge mst BR suite w/ full bath & jacuzzi tub. For a virtual tour go to  
[www.nahidmbh.com](http://www.nahidmbh.com)  
3362 Brunell Drive  
**Nahid Nassiri 510-339-8400**



**VIEWS, GARDENS, AND SPACE.**.....\$559,995  
...in this Oakland Hills home with au pair and separate self-sufficient living spaces.  
7575 Sunlist  
**Rosemary Greene 510-339-4000**

**PERFECT HIDEAWAY!**.....\$415,000  
Cute & private 3/2 with fabulous yard & bay views.  
4122 Tompkins  
**Maria Sinclair 510-339-8400**

**ABSOLUTELY CHARMING COTTAGE!**.....\$299,000  
This bright & airy Mediterranean cottage w/guest house is set behind and elegant iron gate w/automatic auto access. Offering lovely gardens in front & rear yards, two nice size BR's and lge eat-in kitchen.  
3419 Maple Ave  
**Nahid Nassiri 510-339-8400**

## Open Sunday 7/22/01



**CHARM GALORE.**.....\$289,000  
...in this 3+ BR craftsman in North Oak. Tastefully remodeled kit. & bath. Ref. hwd flrs, tiled kitchen floor. Bonus rm + basement. Beautiful architectural details.  
921 43rd St.  
**Gary Robinson 510-339-4000**

**VACATION EVERYDAY.**.....\$209,000  
You'll love this immaculate and charming 1 BDRM 1 BA condo home in a quiet parklike setting near carpets, new appliances, pool & spa and priced right. Hurry!  
710 D Canyon Oaks Dr.  
**Jody Edmonson 510-339-4000**

**IN THE HEART OF DOWNTOWN SAN LEANDRO.**.....\$179,000  
This charming condominium is walking distance to BART, grocers and the wonderful restaurants of Downtown! A bright and spacious corner unit offers 2+ Bd, 2 ba, plus m w/closet can be third bedroom.  
1599 Hays St. #305, San Leandro  
**Nahid Nassiri 510-339-8400**

## By Appointment



**CAPTIVATING VIEWS.**.....\$695,000  
from almost every rm of this dramatic 4 bd, 3 bath Oakland Hills beauty! Offering sophisticated living with style & elegance, you will adore the bright lvg rm w/ fp, gourmet kitchen/family rm combo, lge decks & master suite w/ FP, full bath & deck access.  
**Nahid Nassiri 510-339-8400**

**OLD WORLD CHARM ABOUNDS.**.....\$575,000  
In this beautiful Rockridge Duplex. Live in one & rent the other. It'd be hard to choose between the two or three bedrooms. Lovely & spacious with large garden. Garage converted to artist/writers studio. Off-street parking, stroll to shops.  
**Mary Jane McConville 510-339-8400**

## By Appointment



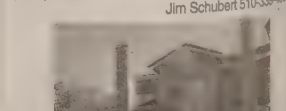
**NEWER THAN NEW.**.....\$395,000  
One of the best homes in the Hayward Hills located in a serene cul-de-sac. Ready to move in.  
A.D. Nassiri 510-339-8400

**LOOK ME OVER!**.....\$399,000  
Great Bungalow Duplex 3+ BR/1 BA, 2 BR/1 BA units will be vacant for occupants or rental. Please drive by 1173 MacArthur.  
**Teresa Chan 510-339-4000**

**LIVE IN ONE & RENT THE OTHER UNIT.**.....\$325,000  
...to help you pay mtge. Immaculate duplex with beautiful yard & deck. Great North Oakland neighborhood.  
**Gary Robinson 510-339-4000**

**NEW LISTING!**.....\$298,000  
Clean 2 BR/1 BA stucco w/in-law. Deep lot, convenient location to freeways, shops. Quiet neighborhood, great starter home.  
**Teresa Chan 510-339-4000**

**NEED EXTRA WORK OR STORAGE SPACE?**.....\$295,000  
Collect and work on cars, run a shop, computer office, or ? in the 2-car garage, bonus rooms and long private driveway of this secluded 2+ bedroom Rose Garden home in good condition, for only \$295,000!  
**Jim Schubert 510-339-4000**



**ENJOY COMING HOME!**.....\$288,500  
This light filled 3 BD 2 BA townhome is charming with high ceilings, large master suite, deck with hot tub, new carpets, and in a quiet green setting.  
**Jody Edmonson 510-339-4000**

**GREAT CONDO ALTERNATIVE.**.....\$295,000  
Charming 2 BR - 1 bath bungalow. Fireplace, rental yard, good established area of Lower Diamond District. Needs some TLC. Perfect for the first time home buyer.  
**Noni Robinson/Joe Ashton 510-339-4000**

Our offices offer RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY MANAGEMENT SERVICES - contact Anna Jones for further information • 510-339-8400



Please recycle this newspaper.



This beautiful spacious 3 bedroom/2.5 bath house shows like a model home! Light and bright, with vaulted ceiling. Located in prestigious Harbor Bay!!

- Three bedroom/2.5 baths
- Large master bedroom with beautiful master bath
- Lots of closet space
- Formal dining area
- Open entry way
- Sparkling kitchen with eating

- Fireplace
- 2 car attached garage/long driveway
- Landscaped front and back
- Only 5 yrs old! Shows like new!!!
- Great commuter location!

Ort Rd, Alameda  
**Reduced to \$494,900!!**

Exclusive listing agent  
**Patty Okawa**  
925-934-1111 ext 201  
Cell 925-788-4392

**ALAIN PINEL**  
REALTOR

**OPEN SUNDAY JULY 22<sup>nd</sup> 2:00-4:30 PM**

**1569 Trestle Glen Road, Oakland**

Built in 1928 and designed by architect, George Ellinger, this striking Tudor style home with over 2800 sq. ft. has 4 bedrooms and 1 1/2 baths. The large 4th bedroom could also be used as a family room or a great office. The large kitchen has plenty of charm with its built-in china cabinet and adjoining breakfast nook. The house has its own built-in "upboard space". The step down living room is a cozy fireplace, hardwood floors, and a nice picture window for plenty of light. Enjoy your outdoor living with this 1/4 acre lot. Your own private park with a beautiful pool and beautiful landscaping. A nice deck completes this great home.

**Offered at \$825,000**

**Beautiful Home In Piedmont - 273 Scenic Avenue**

Built in 1916 this charming summer cottage style home has lots of privacy 4 Bedrooms and 2 baths. Enjoy the peace and quiet on the two decks. A lower level living area has both an inside entrance and a separate outside entrance which makes it great for family member.

**Offered at \$699,000**

**Rita Harrington & Ted Normat**

Email: RitaHar@aol.com • Email: Tnormat@aol.com  
Voicecall: 510-986-9485 • Voicecall: 510-869-5052  
Office: 510-428-0900



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**MARVIN GARDENS REAL ESTATE**

*When it's your move ...*



**Kensington. 245 Willamette Ave. \$685,000**  
Stunning Three Bridge Views! Premier architect-designed home on gorgeous lot. Four bedrooms, 2.5 baths, lovely master suite, elegant formal dining & living room, hardwood floors, decks, wood beam ceilings, skylights.  
**Open Sun 2-4.**  
Mary Gray & Todd Hodson (510) 527-9111



**Pinole. 532 Dorham Lane, Pinole. \$359,000**  
Immaculate 3 bedroom/2.5 contemporary located near the Bay. Vaulted ceiling in living room. Family room off kitchen, newer plush carpeting, hardwood floors, fresh interior paint. Designer closet system.  
**Open Sun 2-4:30.**  
Darrell Hoh (510) 559-2905



**Richmond View. 550 Dimm St. \$325,000**  
Ready to move into! Three plus bedrooms, one plus bath, formal dining room and living room with random plank hardwood floors, fireplace, custom drapes. Downstairs bonus room, easy access to BART, I-80. **Open Sun. 2-4.**  
De Everson (510) 559-2926



**Richmond View. 1804 Ralston. \$299,500**  
Fall in love! Sunny, spacious and charming bungalow with beautifully landscaped yard & garden. Two bedrooms / one bath, hardwood floors, fireplace and large country kitchen.  
**Open Sun. 2-4.**  
Todd Hodson (510) 559-2915



**El Sobrante. 479 Rincon Rd. \$279,500**  
Ready to move into! Freshly painted 3br/2ba Ranch with new upgrades in an upcoming neighborhood of upscale new homes. New carpet, refinished hardwood floor, vinyl floors, and more. **Open Sun 2-4.**  
Herman Sun (510) 559-2929

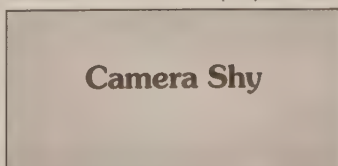


**El Cerrito. 6804 Portola Dr. \$395,000**  
Immaculate 3br/2ba home in prime location. Beautiful refinished hardwood floors, freshly painted interior & exterior, fireplace in living room. Spacious floor plan.  
**Open Sun 2-4:30.**  
Jeri Jones (510) 559-2902

**Camera Shy**



**El Cerrito. 113 Carmel. \$420,000**  
Sophisticated sun-filled home in St. Jerome's. Three br/ 1.5 ba. beautiful remodeled open-design kitchen, extra living space with 1/2 bath, banks of windows, all one level. Walk to El Cerrito and Solano. **Open Sun 2-4.**  
Barbara Kaplan (510) 559-2910



**El Cerrito. 135 Santa Fe. \$465,000**  
Mediterranean Styling. Generously proportioned rooms featuring hardwood floors, fireplace in living room, formal dining, eat-in kitchen. Bay view.  
**Open Sun 2-4.**  
Denyse Biagi (510) 559-2908

**STILL AVAILABLE**

**El Cerrito. 1230 Brewster 3br/2ba.....\$580,000**  
**Berkeley. 1419 Santa Fe. 2br/1ba.....\$349,000**

**Merrilyn Rhodes (510) 559-2928**  
**Barbara Kaplan (510) 559-2910**

**7502 Fairmount Ave.**  
**El Cerrito • (510) 527-9111**

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# TEMPLETON LEVERETTE

**COMPANY**

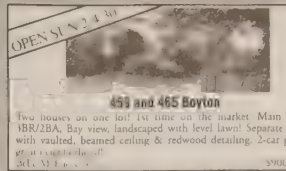
THERE IS NO SUBSTITUTE FOR LOCAL KNOWLEDGE

**BERKELEY**



**619 Spruce St. Casa Suena (Dream Home)**

Exquisite North Berkeley Mediterranean. Constructed in 1939 panoramic Bay views, expansive garden. 3,153 living area 4+BR 3BA. Sep dr, fp, breakfast rm, den, 2-car garage. Private convenient gated access to the rear of property. Ruth Frassetto x147.....1,500,000



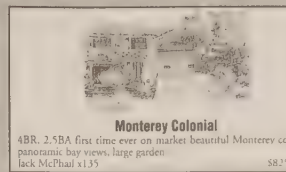
**453 and 465 Boyton**

Two houses on one lot! 1st time ever on market! Main house 3BR/2BA. Bay view, landscaped with level lawn! Separate studio with vaulted, beamed ceiling & redwood detailing. 2-car garage great for cars or storage.  
Betsy St. James.....\$900,000



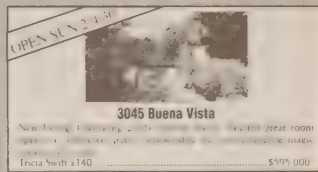
**7020 Devon Way**

Beautiful 4BR/2.5BA home with great room, sun deck, fireplace, hardwood floors, and more.  
Anne Wiland x146.....\$898,000



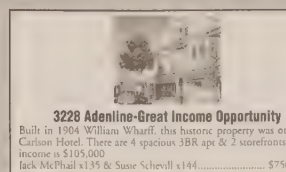
**Monterey Colonial**

4BR, 2.5BA first time ever on market beautiful Monterey colonial, panoramic bay views, large garden.  
Jack McPhail x135.....\$825,000



**3045 Buena Vista**

New home in Berkeley with great room, sun deck, fireplace, hardwood floors, and more.  
Tricia Swift x140.....\$995,000



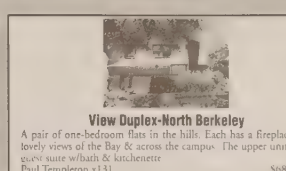
**3228 Adenline-Great Income Opportunity**

Built in 1904 William Wharf, this historic property was once the Carlton Hotel. There are 4 spacious 3BR apt & 2 storefronts. Gross income is \$105,000.  
Jack McPhail x135 & Susan Schevill x144.....\$750,000



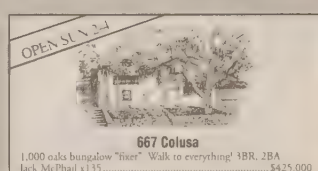
**1020 Overlook Road**

Very special one level home over looks El Cerrito Private park & level entry from attached garage. 3BR, 2.5BA.  
Mary Morrill x132.....\$589,000



**View Duplex-North Berkeley**

A pair of one-bedroom flats in the hills. Each has a fireplace and lovely views of the Bay & across the campus. The upper unit has a great suite with a kitchenette.  
Paul Templeton x131.....\$685,000



**667 Colusa**

1,000 oaks bungalow "finer" Walk to everything! 4BR, 2BA  
Jack McPhail x135.....\$425,000



**1431 Grant St., North Berkeley**

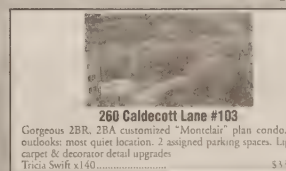
Desirable 2BR, 1BA with charm & great location.  
Anny Van Dyke x137.....\$539,000



**1849 Arch Street**

Soaring ceilings, hardwood floors, fireplace, 3BR updated.  
Linda Wolin x125.....\$479,000

**OAKLAND**



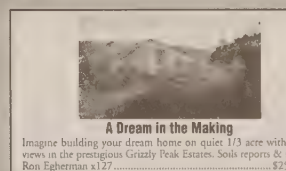
**260 Caldecott Lane #103**

Gorgeous 2BR, 2BA customized "Montclair" plan condo. Leafy outlook, most quiet location. 2 assigned parking spaces. Lighting, carpet & decorator detail upgrades.  
Tricia Swift x140.....\$349,000



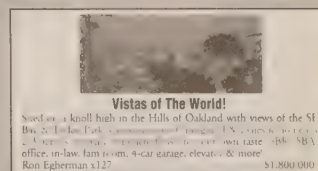
**Rockridge Beauty!**

Remodeled craftsman w/ beautiful detail! 2/1, kitchen/lam, rm sunny deck & garden, detached garage! Walk to BART & shops!  
Bebe McRae x145.....\$475,000



**A Dream in the Making**

Imagine building your dream home on quiet 1/3 acre with serene views in the prestigious Grizzly Peak Estates. Soils reports & survey.  
Ron Egberman x127.....\$750,000



**Vistas of The World!**

Stunning, a knoll high in the Hills of Oakland with views of the SF Bay, San Francisco Bay, and the Golden Gate Bridge. 3BR, 2BA, office, in-law, full 1000 sq. ft. 4-car garage, elevator & more!  
Ron Egberman x127.....\$1,800,000



**7149 Buckingham Claremont Hills**

Wonderful 4BR, 3.5BA contemporary.....\$749,000  
Helene Barkin x124.....



**Upper Oakmore 4400 Bridgeview**

Terrific 3BR, 2BA on a great street.  
Anne Van Dyke x137.....\$559,000

**KENSINGTON**



**750 Wellesley Avenue**

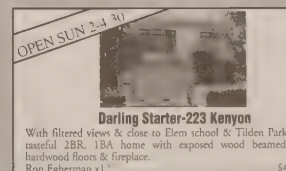
Roger Lee contemporary in peaceful neighborhood. 3BR, 2BA, library, rumpus room, Bay views!  
Anne Walund x146.....\$545,000



**Beautiful Condition!**

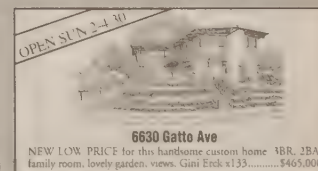
One level living with Bay Views, sunny level yard. 3BR, 1.5BA  
Bebe McRae x145.....\$515,000

**EL CERRITO**



**Darling Starter-223 Kenyon**

With filtered views & close to El Cerrito and Tilden Park sits this tasteful 2BR, 1BA home with exposed wood beamed ceiling, hardwood floors & fireplace.  
Ron Egberman x127.....\$435,000



**6630 Gatto Ave**

NEW LOW PRICE for this handsome custom home 3BR, 2BA, family room, lovely garden, views. Gini Erik x133.....\$465,000

**PIEDMONT**



**Beautiful Craftsman**

Very special home with finest detail! 3BR formal dining, den, gourmet kitchen, attached garage! Close to Wildwood School.  
Bebe McRae x145.....\$665,000

**ALBANY**

**Coming Soon!**

**1505 Posen**

Artistic detailing & great condition! 2BR, 2BA, plus office or au pair with 1/2 bath! Formal dining, updated kitchen, study, hardwood floors!  
Bebe McRae x145.....\$550,000

**Albany**  
**Albany Gem 1452 Portland**  
**Open Sun 2-4**

3 BR, plus room, great location!  
Helene Barkin x124.....\$549,000

**Alameda**  
**Alameda Gold Coast**

Spectacular lagoon views from this light filled sophisticated custom 5BR 3.5BA home.  
Bebe McRae x145 & Anne Van Dyke x137.....\$950,000

**Richmond**  
**25 Seagull Drive Marina Bay**  
**Open Sun 2-4**


Beautiful contemporary 3BR, 2.5BA in the Breakers.  
Gini Erik x133.....\$465,000

**3070 Claremont Ave.**  
**510.652.2133**  
[www.templetonleverette.com](http://www.templetonleverette.com)

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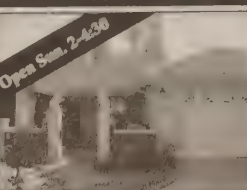
**Oakland Hills**



**San Francisco & Beyond!** \$1,295,000  
Oakland Hills resort setting on nearly an acre of private land. Zip to the golf course, walk across the street to Chabot Park. Dramatic 4 bedroom home with separate apartment. Glorious outdoor living!

Helen Nicholas (510) 339-8900 x238

**Montclair**

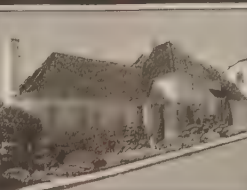


**Open Sun 2-4:30**

**Private Setting & Level-In** \$885,000  
Three bedrooms, three full baths, formal dining, breakfast nook w/ landscaping, courtyard w/ fountains, indoor barbeque, loads of custom features, also greenhouse atrium, oversized 2 car garage and private water well.

Angela Lawson (510) 339-8900 x224


**Piedmont**



**City of Piedmont** \$799,000  
Elegant gardens, bay views, large storage space. Old World Charm and of course, Piedmont schools. Above Highland price reduced to sell 3 1/2 1/2. Formal dining room, hardwood floors. 1st time on market in 50 years under \$800K.

Mel Copland (510) 339-8900 x255

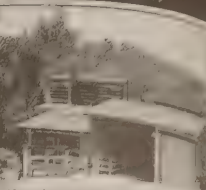
**Alameda**



**2 Cottages, 1 Lot!** \$475,000  
2 country cottages on 1 lot, featuring hardwood floors, large private yard, great location, potential for enlargement. 776 Haight Avenue

Peter Fletcher (510) 521-1177

**Montclair**



**Montclair's Best Deal!** \$449,000  
Contemporary 4 bedroom, 4 bath home located on a hidden cul de sac in the Montclair district of the East Bay Hills. This home is your best value in the area bar none. See for yourself!

Mel Copland (510) 339-900 x255

**Redwood Heights**



**New Listing!** \$425,000  
Updated, sunny 3 bd/2ba home with family room, hardwood floors, fireplace, fenced yard and much more.

Phil Weingrow (510) 339-8900 x245

**Oakland**

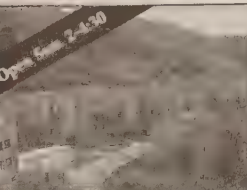


**Open Sun 2-4:30**

**Cute home, new kitchen!** \$369,000  
Must see 2 bedroom, 1.5 bath. Hardwood floors. All new kitchen. Fireplace. Bonus room. 2 car garage. New roof. Lawn, Deck in yard. Sequoia Hills neighborhood.

Kathrina Verzosa (510) 339-8900 x240

**Parkwoods**




**Open Sun 2-4:30**

**1st Time Open!** \$370,000  
Quality upgrades throughout this 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo in resort like Parkwoods. Amenities include pool, spa, state of the art fitness center, club house and green belts.

Tom Erwin (510) 339-8900 x230

**Oakland**




**Open Sun 2-4:30**

**Million Dollar View!** \$340,000  
Classic Mediterranean w/ cathedral ceiling in living room, formal dining room, eat-in kitchen, level patio & play yard. Panoramic view from deck of Mt. Tamalpais, Golden Gate & Bay Bridge, San Francisco and down to the South Bay!

Sheila Brox Crawford (510) 339-8900 x262

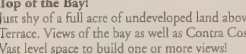
**Montclair**



**Loft & One Bedroom** \$319,000  
Beautiful loft plus 1 bedroom Parkwoods-top floor w/ hardwood floors, ceilings, Pool, gym appointment only!

Cindy Boze (510) 339-8900 x217

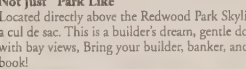
**Oakland**



**Top of the Bay!** \$439,000  
Just shy of a full acre of undeveloped land above Broadway Terrace. Views of the bay as well as Contra Costa County. Vast level space to build one or more view!

Mel Copland (510) 339-8900 x255

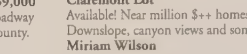
**Oakland**



**Not just "Park Like"** \$220,000  
Located directly above the Redwood Park Skyline gate, on a cul de sac. This is a builder's dream, gentle downslope lot with bay views. Bring your builder, banker, and check book!

Mel Copland (510) 339-8900 x255

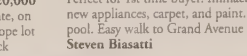
**Berkeley/Claremont**



**Claremont Lot** \$179,000  
Available! Near million \$++ homes. A great opportunity. Downslope, canyon views and some Bay views.

Miriam Wilson (510) 652-0619

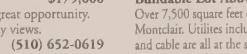
**Oakland**



**Why Rent?** \$149,000  
Perfect for 1st time buyer! Immaculate, bright unit with new appliances, carpet, and paint. Central courtyard & pool. Easy walk to Grand Avenue shopping.

Steven Biasatti (510) 339-8900 x239

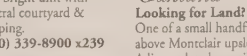
**Montclair/Piedmont Pines**



**Buildable Lot Above Montclair!** \$79,500  
Over 7,500 square feet of land in the Piedmont Pines area above Montclair. Utilities including water, gas, electric, sewer, phone, and cable are all at the street level. 60 feet of road frontage, easy upslope lot with potential views. There are not many of these left!

Jim Forquer (510) 339-8900 x218

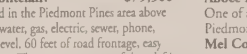
**Oakland**



**Looking for Land?** \$59,000  
One of a small handful of lots in the Piedmont Pines area above Montclair upslope lot just above Skyline Drive. Adjacent lot also available. There are not many of these left!

Mel Copland (510) 339-8900 x255

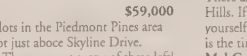
**Montclair/Piedmont Pines**



**Above Montclair-Raw Land** \$50,000  
One of a fast shrinking number of lots in the Piedmont Pines/ Montclair districts. Better than anywhere else!

Mel Copland (510) 339-8900 x255

**Montclair/Piedmont Pines**



**Above Montclair** \$50,000  
There are not many of these parcels in the Hills. If you ever have thought of owning yourself in one of the East Bay Hills, this is the time!

Mel Copland (510) 339-8900 x255

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3249 Mt. Diablo Boulevard, Lafayette, CA 94549 (925) 935-9100  
185 Railroad Avenue, Danville, CA 94526 (925) 314-1500  
Visit us at: [www.heritage realestate.com](http://www.heritage realestate.com)

**Open Sunday**

**CLAREMONT HILLS** \$2,275,000  
6809 BUCKINGHAM (Open 2-4:30)  
5+BD/4.5BA. Splendid new home w/ panoramic SF & GG views. Gourmet kitchen/family room, Luxury master suite. Approx. 1/2 acre. Spectacular.

Nancy Noman x373

**CLAREMONT HILLS** \$1,295,000  
1449 WEST VIEW DR. (Open 2-4:30)  
Gorgeous new Spanish/Mediterranean w/ SF & GG views, high ceilings, arched windows, rustic beams, level out terrace. 4BR/3+BA. Patricia Scott x315

**MONTCLAIR** \$1,175,000  
6415 THORNDAL DR. (Open 2-4:30)  
Price reduced! Dramatic architect designed home w/breathtaking bay & city views. Romantic master suite. Outstanding amenities! Ann Nichols x319



**MONTCLAIR** \$1,085,000  
6089 MAZUELA DR. (Open 2-4:30)  
New Listing! Sensational newer home w/Bay views from most rooms. 4+BR/3.5BA, home office, gourmet kitchen/family room & spacious decks. David Ichikawa x331 & Nancy Moore x302



**CLAREMONT HILLS** \$925,000  
6915 NORFOLK RD. (Open 2-4:30)  
Meticulous attention to details. Architectural Digest quality kitchen, luxurious master w/ sitting areas & central courtyard. 4BR/2.5BA. Charlotte Boyle x370



**PIEDMONT** \$799,000  
218 HIGHLAND AVE. (Open 2-4:30)  
Classic Craftsman with gracious formal rooms rich in architectural detail. Master suite, den, 2 plus rooms, garden. Near schools. Martha Holstlaw x312

**PACIFIC UNION**

510.339.6460  
[www.pacunion.com](http://www.pacunion.com)

**Open Sunday**

**ROCKRIDGE** price upon request  
6445 BENVENUE AVE. (Open 2-4:30)  
New Listing! Charming brown shingle 4+BR/2BA home plus 1BR & studio units in rear. Located on sought after street one block below College Ave. Patricia Scott x315

**UPPER OAKMORE** \$680,000  
2333 LEIMERT BLVD. (Open 2-4:30)  
Sophisticated traditional upgraded w/style & panache. Cook's kitchen & gracious living room open to patio & beautiful garden. 3BR/2BA. Teri Carlisle x305

**OAKLAND HILLS** \$675,000  
11740 CRANFORD WY (Open 2-4:30)  
Spectacular view home high above Sheffield Village. Over 3000 sq ft w/separate in-law. Excellent for entertaining. Located on private road. 4+BR/3BA. Ann Nichols x319



**PIEDMONT** \$659,000  
232 WILLOWOOD AVE. (Open 2-4:30)  
Wonderful 3+BR/2BA near Wildwood School. Light & airy, formal entry, formal dining, plus room, huge sunny garden & deck. Anne Feste x371



**RIDGEMONT** \$599,000  
6224 VIEWCREST DR. (Open 2-4:30)  
New listing! Sparkling 4BR/3BA. Sunny eat-in kitchen. Family room, 2 fireplaces, formal dining room, large level yard, 3 car garage. Robyn Mohr x310

**Open Sunday**

**ALAMEDA** \$495,000  
1027 FOUNTAIN ST. (Open 2-4:30)  
Sunny 3BR/1.5BA in terrific condition. New kitchen, large family room. Private fenced back yard with deck. Dick Cohen x308 & Sandi Klemmer x314



**REDWOOD HEIGHTS** \$489,500  
4273 ATLAS AVE. (Open 2-4:30)  
Lovely Tudor style home w/fine architectural detailing. 3BR/2BA, formal dining, eat-in kitchen, plus room w/dance floor & level yard. Diane Earl McCan x352



**MONTCLAIR** \$489,000  
55 CHELTON LANE (Open 2-4:30)  
Updated dramatic Tom Lowe contemporary with San Francisco Bay and canyon views. 3BR/2BA. Adriana Giacomelli x350



**HADDON HILL** \$485,000  
845 PROSPECT AVE. (Open 2-4:30)  
Wonderful traditional on corner lot. 3BR/2BA, large living room w/bay window, FP, built in bookcases, hardwood floors. Donna Costella x355

**Open Sunday**



**REDWOOD HEIGHTS** \$479,000  
4709 DAVENPORT AVE. (Open 2-4:30)  
Charming 3+BR/2BA home w/ S. F. Bay & G. views, great room & large family room to deck and garden. Rich Gould x347



**ROCKRIDGE** \$399,000  
5821 COLBY ST. (Open 2-4:30)  
New Listing! Charming 1914 renewed 1+BR/1BA bungalow! Only minutes to BART & College Avenue. Great condo alternative. Jeffrey Himmel x307

**TEMESCAL** \$399,000  
419 43RD ST. (Open 2-4:30)  
Charming bungalow w/craftsman touches, built-ins, wainscoting & fireplace. Sunny garden. Terrific location. 2BR/1BA. Teri Carlisle x305

**SAN LEANDRO** \$359,000  
870 JOAQUIN AVE. (Open 2-4:30)  
Craftsman style charmer. 2BR/1BA, updated kitchen & deep lot with fruit trees. Michelle Miller x335

**LAUREL DISTRICT** \$329,000  
4433 HYACINTH AVE. (Open 2-5)  
Charming bungalow w/formal dining room, hardwood floors, open floor plan & eat-in kitchen. 2BR/1BA. Vicki Woodhead x334

**By Appointment**

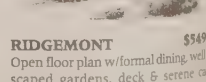
**PIEDMONT** \$3,350,000  
Historic estate, w/panoramic bay views 5+BR/4+BA. 41+ acres. 10,000 square foot lot. Helen & Charlotte Boyle x370

**CLAREMONT HILLS** \$2,395,000  
Magnificent European villa w/panoramic SF & G. G. Bridge views. 5+BR/5+BA 5500 sq. ft., 3 fireplace pair, kitchen/family rm

**MONTCLAIR** \$739,000  
South Bay/Lake Merritt views old sunny 4BR/3.5BA. 2 master fireplaces, approx. 3375 sq. ft. floors. Robyn x310 & Wendy x303

**MONTCLAIR** \$690,000  
Unsurpassed views of bridges, cities, mountains & Bay. 4+BR/3.5BA hilltop home, rumpus, decks & patio. Over 3800 sq. ft. Kathleen Callahan x343

**CLAREMONT HILLS** \$595,000  
Almost new 4BR/3+BA close to Claremont Hotel. Hardwood floors, den, formal living, eat-in kitchen & private back yard. Patricia Scott x315



**RIDGEMONT** \$549,000  
Open floor plan w/formal dining, well landscaped gardens, deck & serene canyon views. 3BR/2.5BA. Martha Holstlaw x312

**GLENVIEW** \$345,000  
Duplex plus rear cottage. Well landscaped, 3 parking spaces. Francis Heath x357

**MONTCLAIR** \$299,000  
Close in gentle downslope lot in neighborhood of million dollar homes. Expansive bay views. Never built on. Wendy Gardner x383

**Coming Soon!**

**ROCKRIDGE** \$499,000  
3BR/1BA. Adorable fixer. Big back yard, kitchen w/nook, formal dining, hardwood floors, living room w/fireplace. Near BART. Carolyn Jones x339

**BERKELEY** \$389,000  
2BR/1BA charming 1921 Craftsman bungalow near North Berkeley BART & Gourmet Ghetto. Hardwood floors. Nancy Noman x373









COMING SOON!

3 acre estate in Lafayette's Reliez Valley with stylish 3 bd/2 ba home, pool, plus studio. Beautiful mostly level land. Horses possible.

Just Listed! 10,000 sf steep down slope lot on Skyline Blvd in Montclair. Fab setting for sophisticated single family home with decks. Bring your architects and contractors.



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Charlotte Boyle  
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415 Pacific Avenue  
Piedmont  
Large level lot  
4++ Bedrooms/4+ Baths  
Master bedroom with fireplace  
Updated kitchen with deck  
Dining room with fireplace  
Family room  
Music room  
\$3,350,000

Open Sunday 2-4:30



509 Norvell Street  
El Cerrito  
Offered at \$399,000



6291 Vallejo Street #2  
Emeryville  
Offered at \$329,000

Anian Pettit Tunney  
Adrienne Tunney  
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Orchard, Olive Grove, Vineyard, and even a Waterfall emerald green. MEDITERRANEAN MINI-PALACE luxuriously finished with granite, and solid oak. The AMAZING MASTER SUITE has 2 offices fireplace, double whirlpool tub, sauna, and walk-in cedar-lined closet. The GOURMET KITCHEN is fit for a Chef with granite counters custom copper hood, Viking range, 2 sinks, trash compactor, and a pantry with wine cellar. MILLION DOLLAR VIEWS and more... more, more!  
3 Bedrooms, 3.5 Baths \$950,000

# COLDWELL BANKER

PIEDMONT & OAKLAND • 510.339.4700



17 Cambridge Way \$699,000  
A Piedmont. 4+BR/2.5BA Traditional in convenient location w/ master suite, den/family room opens level out to sunny yard w/patio. Open Sunday 2-4:30. Dian Hymer



2440 10th Avenue \$385,000  
Oakland. Prime property! 4+BR brown shingled Victorian plus 1 BR cottage. Huge lot, fruit trees. HWF, high ceilings, built-ins. Nice! Open Sunday 1-4:30. Victor Ratto

FIRST OPEN

6009 Romany Road \$849,000  
Upper Rockridge. Cape Cod charm! 4BR/3BA, extra large lot, HWF, eat-in kitchen w/FP, formal dining room. Open Sunday 2-5. Terry Kulka/Ellen Lancaster

6808 Chambers Drive \$695,000  
Montclair. New listing! 4+BR/3BA, family room, HWF, dining room, 2 fireplaces, decks, canyon views. Open Sunday 2-4:30. Victor Fierro

111 Buckeye Ave \$619,000  
MUpper Rockridge. Newly updated 3+BR/2BA home w/quality finishes, newer baths, master suite & rumpus room. Open Sunday 2-5. Michael Thompson/Jerry Dolan

OPEN SUNDAY

1500 Park Ave. #312, Emeryville \$669,000  
Fabulous loft reduced to sell! 2 traditional BR/2BA, top floor, corner unit w/great lites & views. HWF 2-4:30. Del Orr

5352 Boyd Ave \$595,000  
Rockridge. Brown shingle. Great location & loaded with charm. Lovely HWF, big level yard, close to BART & College Ave. 2-4:30. Joan Alford

4379 Whittle Ave \$459,000  
Oakmore. Sunny 3BR/2BA + office, lovely yard, HWF, FP, 2-car garage. 2-4:30. Nader Davari

4331 Tompkins \$399,000  
Redwood Hts. 2+BR/1BA, family room, updated eat-in kitchen. Bed 'n' breakfast cute! 2-4:30. Phyllis Wherry

13878 School Street \$369,000  
San Leandro. Mettulous 3BR/2BA, family room, covered patio & attached garage. HWF under carpet. 2-5. George Karsant

255-3rd St. #208 \$349,000  
Jack London Square. Sharp loft, 1BR/1BA close to all! Great SF-style loft at a fraction of SF prices 1-4. Lydia Nayo

BY APPOINTMENT

4209 Dunsmuir Ave \$489,000  
Redwood Heights. Charming traditional. 3BR/2BA, renovated kitchen, fam. rm., wonderful yard. 2-5. George Karsant

Piedmont Pines \$738,000  
3+BR/2 1/2 BA. Sweeping views, kitchen/family room combo. formal dining & deck. Jack Breneman

Upper Rockridge \$699,000  
Very sharp one level w/high ceilings, HWF, lovely garden/patio. Nancy Dickey

Montclair \$619,000  
5BR/3.5BA. HWF, remodeled kitchen & baths. Close to Montclair Swim Club. Victor Fierro

Montclair \$605,000  
4BR/3BA. New carpets, bright sunny kitchen, great location, private deck off family room, plenty of parking for guests. David Eckert

Danville \$579,000  
Walk to downtown. Nearly new 4BR/2.5BA, light, spacious well designed floor plan, eat-in kitchen w/adjacent family room, master suite. John Dunn

Oakmore \$590,000  
Wonderful 3BR Traditional. Big rumpus room, 2 fireplaces & park like backyard. Terry Kulka

Claremont Heights Lot \$550,000  
Stupendous lot with view. David Eckert

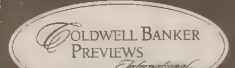
Montclair \$499,000  
A rustic lane leads to this very private 3+BR/2BA Thornhill Village cottage. Beautifully updated. Fritz Hochfeller

Berkeley \$422,000  
4plex. Newer roof, kit, bath. Security gate +4 parking & laundry. Walk to BART. Live in one & rent the other. It won't last. Nader Davari

Joaquin Miller \$369,000  
Fixer w/charm, contractor special! 3 BR/1.5BA, FM DR. Bay view, 2 car garage & level yard. Darcy Diamantine

Montclair Lot \$349,000  
Beautiful, almost level, amidst luxury homes. Fritz Hochfeller

Montclair Lot \$89,000  
Two lots. Great opportunity. David Eckert



A BERKELEY BEAUTY \$1,295,000  
Close to Gourmet Ghetto, 20's home lovingly restored & remodeled in 1990. 5bdms/3baths, permitted office, firm DR, beautiful hwd flrs & wood trim thruout. New plumbing, heating & electrical. Large, beautifully landscaped lot. Barbara & Kim Marienthal



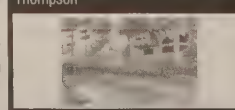
811 Highland \$2,158,000  
Piedmont. Classic Mediterranean. 4+BR, fabulous remodeled kitchen, family room, spacious terrace & level backyard. Dian Hymer



34 Villanova Lane \$1,150,000  
Montclair. Great setting, views of Mt. Diablo & SF Bay. 2nd foundation in place. 4BR/3BA, unbelievable amount of space. Do not miss. David Eckert



124 Sheridan Road \$1,200,000  
Rockridge (Upper). Custom 4+BR/3+BA contemporary w/wood ceilings, open floor plan & top quality finishes. Enter in style. Michael Thompson



3030 Mohrwood Dr \$999,000  
Piedmont Pines. Sophisticated retreat on a spectacular lot w/pool & guesthouse. Simple, easy floor plan makes this 2BR/1.5BA home very special. Donna Conroy

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A RARE OPPORTUNITY \$549,000  
Discover hidden treasure on a private cul-de-sac, central location close to 12 years Piedmont schools, swim club and tennis club. This elegant traditional home offers tranquil retreat at an affordable price.

ALBANY 1056 Peralta \$689,000  
Super home, 4 bdms/2baths

BERKELEY 127 Poplar \$899,000  
Bay views, 3bdms/2baths + family rm

1034 Euclid \$879,000  
Prane style, 3 bdms/2baths, lower hills

EMERYVILLE 5363 Christie #626 \$459,000  
Sunny condo w/ knock-out vus, 2 bdms/2baths

OAKLAND 13848 Campus Drive \$719,000  
Bit 2000, spectacular, 4bdms/2baths

PIEDMONT 410 Hillside Ct \$599,000  
Golden opportunity. 2+bdms/1+ bath + bonus room and bath down

BY APPOINTMENT

LUXURY IN OAKLAND HILLS \$1,150,000  
Contemporary home w/ custom details. Built May 2000. Serene views & lush green setting. 4bdms/3.5baths. formal dining. 3brpks, family room & deck. Easy S.F. commute.

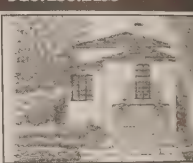
UPSCALE EMERYVILLE LIVE/WORK \$445,000  
NEW PRICE - Versatile 3 level unit in a prime location near Market Hall. Easy access to SF. Custom woodwork, artistic finishes & colors. Kitchen is a w/annex range. Tied baths, laundry & parking. 2+bdms/2baths

SUNNY UPSTAIRS UNIT \$359,000  
Lovingly resorted 2bdm unit. Private rear deck. Lovely garden. Close to BART. Campus & No Shattuck shops & restaurants

HOME + INCOME \$399,000  
Craftsman details. Over 1250 sq ft of living space + bsmt w/ law w/ separate entrance. Sunny deck, nice back yard & garage. Near Ashby BART, Berkeley Bowl & Berkeley border.

CLEAN EMERYVILLE CONDO \$210,000  
Sparkling 2bdm unit in a great location. Perfect starter convenient to all amenities and new hi-tech business center.

SPARKLING ANNEX STARTER \$289,000  
Charming 2bdm unit in a great location. Perfect starter convenient to all amenities and new hi-tech business center.



SPECIAL ALBANY HOME \$599,000  
Next to Terrace Park tennis courts & close to Solano Ave. This 4bdm/2bath home has a great view, firm dining room, family room & floors. Downstairs is legal 2nd unit.

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4

MODERN-DAY BUNGALOW \$599,000  
Light & airy home, 3 bdms/2baths, 3+bdms/2baths, 3+bdms/2baths, 3+bdms/2baths. Great location for transp. & shops

SOPHISTICATED LIVING IN EMERYVILLE \$699,000  
NEW LISTING! Spacious sunlit, contemporary home with high ceilings, w/ marble, oak, granite, access to SF 24-hr concierge service, pool & parking

CHARMING EMERYVILLE BROWN SINGLE \$599,000  
NEW LISTING! Set in a garden setting, this home has high ceilings, w/ marble, oak, granite, 2+ bdms/2baths, 3+bdms/2baths, 3+bdms/2baths. storage shed, newer foundation & more...

GRACIOUS PRARIE \$599,000  
NEW LISTING! This 3+bdm/2bath home has high ceilings, w/ marble, oak, granite, access to SF 24-hr concierge service, pool & parking

SPECIAL NO. BERKELEY HOME \$599,000  
Winning paths in this country garden. 3bdms/2.1baths & great main room, w/ access to storage & large garage. Close to BART.

SUPER ALBANY HOME \$599,000  
NEW LISTING! 4bdms/2baths, great Bay view, firm dining rm, hardwood flrs, family room, terrace Park & convenient to BART & Solano Ave. legal 2nd unit. Outstanding schools

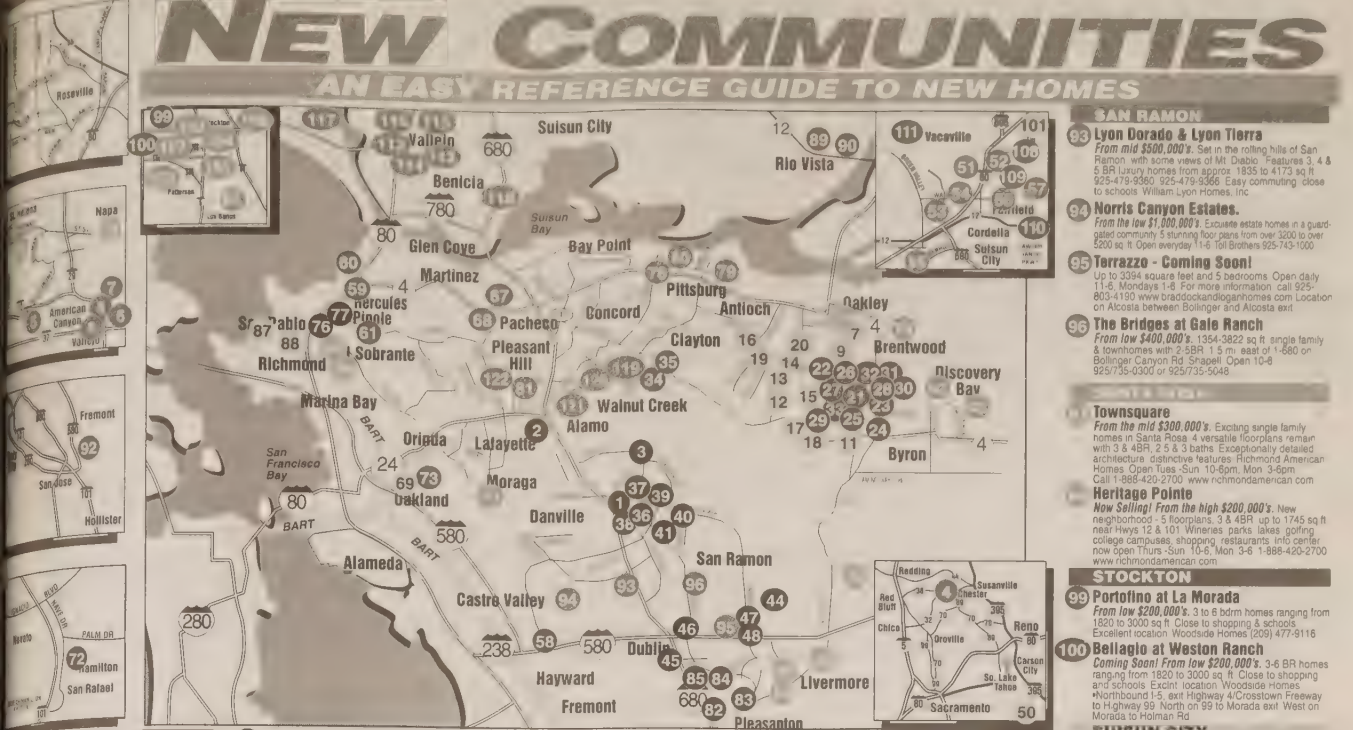
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**Alamo Highlands**  
From \$1,315,000. 3214 sq ft. 4+BR, 4+BA, 3-car garage. Home for sale for 1 mile from the 4th of July. Country Club Open Sat. & Sun. 12-5. Call Custom Home Builders 925-938-0260.

**Charmian Ranch by Northbrook Homes**  
From \$1,200,000. 1.5 ac. 4+BR, 4+BA, 3-car garage. 1554 plus study. Call 680-4100 or 925-743-1330.

**Stone Valley Oaks**  
From \$1,000,000. Models now open! Luxurious homes in Stone Valley. Call 680-4100 or 925-743-1330.

**Manor Lakeside Villas**  
From \$1,000,000. 4+BR, 4+BA, 3-car garage. Home for sale for 1 mile from the 4th of July. Country Club Open Sat. & Sun. 12-5. Call Custom Home Builders 925-938-0260.

**Bella Terra**  
From \$1,000,000. 2 new neighborhoods in Bella Terra. Call 680-4100 or 925-743-1330.

**Chesapeake**  
From \$1,000,000. 4+BR, 4+BA, 3-car garage. Home for sale for 1 mile from the 4th of July. Country Club Open Sat. & Sun. 12-5. Call Custom Home Builders 925-938-0260.

**La Sana at Montevideo**  
From \$1,000,000. 4+BR, 4+BA, 3-car garage. Home for sale for 1 mile from the 4th of July. Country Club Open Sat. & Sun. 12-5. Call Custom Home Builders 925-938-0260.

**Poppy Meadows**  
From \$1,000,000. 4+BR, 4+BA, 3-car garage. Home for sale for 1 mile from the 4th of July. Country Club Open Sat. & Sun. 12-5. Call Custom Home Builders 925-938-0260.

**The Preserve**  
From \$1,000,000. 4+BR, 4+BA, 3-car garage. Home for sale for 1 mile from the 4th of July. Country Club Open Sat. & Sun. 12-5. Call Custom Home Builders 925-938-0260.

**Antioch**  
From \$1,000,000. 4+BR, 4+BA, 3-car garage. Home for sale for 1 mile from the 4th of July. Country Club Open Sat. & Sun. 12-5. Call Custom Home Builders 925-938-0260.

**30 Degrees at Bear Ridge**  
From \$1,000,000. 4+BR, 4+BA, 3-car garage. Home for sale for 1 mile from the 4th of July. Country Club Open Sat. & Sun. 12-5. Call Custom Home Builders 925-938-0260.

**Aspen Grove**  
From \$1,000,000. 4+BR, 4+BA, 3-car garage. Home for sale for 1 mile from the 4th of July. Country Club Open Sat. & Sun. 12-5. Call Custom Home Builders 925-938-0260.

**The Hills at Deer Valley**  
From \$1,000,000. 4+BR, 4+BA, 3-car garage. Home for sale for 1 mile from the 4th of July. Country Club Open Sat. & Sun. 12-5. Call Custom Home Builders 925-938-0260.

**Laurel Terrace at Deer Valley**  
From \$1,000,000. 4+BR, 4+BA, 3-car garage. Home for sale for 1 mile from the 4th of July. Country Club Open Sat. & Sun. 12-5. Call Custom Home Builders 925-938-0260.

**Laurel Terrace at Deer Valley**  
From \$1,000,000. 4+BR, 4+BA, 3-car garage. Home for sale for 1 mile from the 4th of July. Country Club Open Sat. & Sun. 12-5. Call Custom Home Builders 925-938-0260.

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**24 Campanello**  
From high \$300,000's. Biggest most luxurious in Brentwood. Seven designs, from 2668 sq. ft. 4 & 5 BR. Call 680-4100 or 925-743-1330.

**25 Dry Creek from the 400's**  
Coming soon! Master plan golf course community. 1 and 2 story homes with 3-5 bedrooms, 2-3 baths and 2625-3625 sq. ft. K.G. Home. Call 800-34-HOMES to get on the interest list.

**26 Heartstone**  
From the \$300,000's. Morrison Homes. A new home design featuring 17 models, 4 to 5 bedrooms, 2 to 3 bathrooms. Call 680-4100 or 925-743-1330.

**27 Heritage Grove**  
From high \$300,000's. Spacious 3-5 BR. Near charming downtown, great schools, new library. Call 680-4100 or 925-743-1330.

**28 Lyon Rhaphody**  
From the \$200,000's. Lyon Rhaphody features 1 & 2 bedroom homes from approx. 1239 to 2092 sq. ft. with flexible room options. Call 680-4100 or 925-743-1330.

**29 Meridian Pointe**  
From the mid \$300,000's. Beautifully designed new masterplan community. Call 680-4100 or 925-743-1330.

**30 Parkview at Garin Ranch**  
From mid \$200,000's. A collection of 6 home designs from 310-585 sq. ft. in a masterplan setting. Call 680-4100 or 925-743-1330.

**31 Providence**  
From \$200,000's. Providence in Brentwood offers the Bay Area's most affordable homes. Call 680-4100 or 925-743-1330.

**32 Shadow Lakes**  
From the \$300,000's. Three new neighborhoods - Shadow Lakes, Shadow Lakes II, and Shadow Lakes III. Call 680-4100 or 925-743-1330.

**33 Traditions by Ryder Homes**  
From \$200,000's. Models now open! 3+ bedrooms, 2+ bathrooms. Call 680-4100 or 925-743-1330.

**34 Claremont Estates at Crystall Ranch**  
From low \$800,000's. Estate-style homes in gorgeous landscaped community. Call 680-4100 or 925-743-1330.

**35 The Enclave at Crystall Ranch**  
From upper \$500,000's. Luxury homes, offering 4-5 bedrooms, 3+ bathrooms. Call 680-4100 or 925-743-1330.

**36 The Pointe at Crystall Ranch**  
From \$1,000,000's. Features 4+ bedrooms, 3+ bathrooms. Call 680-4100 or 925-743-1330.

**37 Diablo Ranch Estates**  
Priced from \$1.3 million. NEW! SELLING! A masterplan of 17 models, 4 to 5 bedrooms, 2 to 3 bathrooms. Call 680-4100 or 925-743-1330.

**38 Autumn Creek West**  
From the upper \$800,000's. 'Dusty Shoe' Preview Plan. Call 680-4100 or 925-743-1330.

**39 Diablo Ranch Estates**  
Priced from \$1.3 million. NEW! SELLING! A masterplan of 17 models, 4 to 5 bedrooms, 2 to 3 bathrooms. Call 680-4100 or 925-743-1330.

**40 Autumn Creek West**  
From the upper \$800,000's. 'Dusty Shoe' Preview Plan. Call 680-4100 or 925-743-1330.

**41 Diablo Ranch Estates**  
Priced from \$1.3 million. NEW! SELLING! A masterplan of 17 models, 4 to 5 bedrooms, 2 to 3 bathrooms. Call 680-4100 or 925-743-1330.

**42 Autumn Creek West**  
From the upper \$800,000's. 'Dusty Shoe' Preview Plan. Call 680-4100 or 925-743-1330.

**43 Diablo Ranch Estates**  
Priced from \$1.3 million. NEW! SELLING! A masterplan of 17 models, 4 to 5 bedrooms, 2 to 3 bathrooms. Call 680-4100 or 925-743-1330.

**44 Autumn Creek West**  
From the upper \$800,000's. 'Dusty Shoe' Preview Plan. Call 680-4100 or 925-743-1330.

**45 Diablo Ranch Estates**  
Priced from \$1.3 million. NEW! SELLING! A masterplan of 17 models, 4 to 5 bedrooms, 2 to 3 bathrooms. Call 680-4100 or 925-743-1330.

**DUBLIN**  
**47 The Glen at Dublin Greene**  
From the mid \$400,000's. 4 & 5 BR. estate homes up to 2880 sq. ft. Near shops, schools, BART. 585-0112. Sales information center open 10-5 925-875-0112.

**48 The Vineyards at Dublin Greene**  
Lower \$400,000's. elegant townhomes from 1270-1740 sq. ft. Near shops, BART, 680 schools. Sales center open 10-5 925-875-0112.

**Regency Place**  
Coming Soon! Priced in the \$400,000's. New custom 2-3 BR, 2-3 bath, 2-3 car garage. Call 680-4100 or 925-743-1330.

**50 West Lake Island**  
From mid \$200,000's. 6 to 10, 2-4 story floor plans. Call 680-4100 or 925-743-1330.

**51 Green Valley Lake/The Vineyards**  
From the \$300,000's. 2 model complexes. New 1-2 story homes w/ 3-5 BR, 1500-3300 sq. ft. Easy access to 680 Lake. Call 680-4100 or 925-743-1330.

**52 Lyon Falls & Lyon Brook at Woodlake**  
From the mid \$300,000's. Two new communities in a beautiful new location. Call 680-4100 or 925-743-1330.

**53 Oak Crest at Rancho Solano**  
From mid \$300,000's. Exclusive enclave of 39 golf course homes. 4 to 6 bedrooms with approx. 2,578-4,561 sq. ft. Standard 2-3 car garage. Call 680-4100 or 925-743-1330.

**54 Oak Hills Classics & Estates**  
From mid \$300,000's. 4 & 5 BR homes, up to 3 BA & 2 car garage. Call 680-4100 or 925-743-1330.

**55 The Ranch**  
Now SELLING! From the upper 200,000's. PREVIEW. FURNISHED MODEL. 3 new communities. Master planned neighborhood. 3-5 BR, 1743-3245 sq. ft. Open 10-5. Call 680-4100 or 925-743-1330.

**56 Southbrook**  
From mid \$300,000's. The Estates at Southbrook. Call 680-4100 or 925-743-1330.

**57 Visions at Vintage Green Valley**  
From mid \$300,000's. 3 models, 4 to 5 bedrooms, 2 to 3 bathrooms. Call 680-4100 or 925-743-1330.

**58 The Enclave at Crystall Ranch**  
From upper \$500,000's. Luxury homes, offering 4-5 bedrooms, 3+ bathrooms. Call 680-4100 or 925-743-1330.

**59 The Pointe at Crystall Ranch**  
From \$1,000,000's. Features 4+ bedrooms, 3+ bathrooms. Call 680-4100 or 925-743-1330.

**60 Autumn Creek West**  
From the upper \$800,000's. 'Dusty Shoe' Preview Plan. Call 680-4100 or 925-743-1330.

**61 Diablo Ranch Estates**  
Priced from \$1.3 million. NEW! SELLING! A masterplan of 17 models, 4 to 5 bedrooms, 2 to 3 bathrooms. Call 680-4100 or 925-743-1330.

**62 Autumn Creek West**  
From the upper \$800,000's. 'Dusty Shoe' Preview Plan. Call 680-4100 or 925-743-1330.

**63 Diablo Ranch Estates**  
Priced from \$1.3 million. NEW! SELLING! A masterplan of 17 models, 4 to 5 bedrooms, 2 to 3 bathrooms. Call 680-4100 or 925-743-1330.

**64 Autumn Creek West**  
From the upper \$800,000's. 'Dusty Shoe' Preview Plan. Call 680-4100 or 925-743-1330.

**65 Diablo Ranch Estates**  
Priced from \$1.3 million. NEW! SELLING! A masterplan of 17 models, 4 to 5 bedrooms, 2 to 3 bathrooms. Call 680-4100 or 925-743-1330.

**66 Autumn Creek West**  
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**67 Diablo Ranch Estates**  
Priced from \$1.3 million. NEW! SELLING! A masterplan of 17 models, 4 to 5 bedrooms, 2 to 3 bathrooms. Call 680-4100 or 925-743-1330.

**68 Autumn Creek West**  
From the upper \$800,000's. 'Dusty Shoe' Preview Plan. Call 680-4100 or 925-743-1330.

**Liberty Ranch Estates**  
FINAL RELEASE! From \$403,000. 4BR, 2 BA, 1684 to 2120 sq. ft. adjacent to vineyard 707-655-3311. Silverado development. Call 680-4100 or 925-743-1330.

**72 Inspiration**  
From \$1.3 million. Handcrafted homes atop the highest point in the region. Call 680-4100 or 925-743-1330.

**73 Tranquility**  
From \$1.1 million. COMING SOON! Handcrafted homes surrounded by woodlands & open spaces. Call 680-4100 or 925-743-1330.

**74 Oakland**  
From high \$200,000's. 2 models, 4 to 5 bedrooms, 2 to 3 bathrooms. Call 680-4100 or 925-743-1330.

**75 AltaVista Estates in the Oakland Hills**  
From high \$200,000's. 2 models, 4 to 5 bedrooms, 2 to 3 bathrooms. Call 680-4100 or 925-743-1330.

**76 Marsh Creek**  
From the \$200,000's. Best value per sq. ft. in Oakland! Call 680-4100 or 925-743-1330.

**77 Orchard View**  
From the \$300,000's. 3 BR, 3.4 car garage, 3100 sq. ft. & up. Call 680-4100 or 925-743-1330.

**78 Pinole**  
From the \$300,000's. 3 BR, 3.4 car garage, 3100 sq. ft. & up. Call 680-4100 or 925-743-1330.

**79 Harbour Cove**  
Priced from low \$500,000's. Model for sale. Bead 48581 family home. Call 680-4100 or 925-743-1330.

**80 Sunnyview Court Classics**  
From \$255,000. Lowly 2 story, 3 BR, 2 BA, 1504 sq. ft. Call 680-4100 or 925-743-1330.

**81 Harbor Lights**  
From the \$200,000's. 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 1500 sq. ft. Call 680-4100 or 925-743-1330.

**82 Highlands Ranch**  
From high \$200,000's. 1734-4000 sq. ft. 3-5BR, 4.3 car garage. Call 680-4100 or 925-743-1330.

**83 Marina Way**  
From the \$200,000's. Big 3 BR, 2 BA, 1504 sq. ft. Call 680-4100 or 925-743-1330.

**84 Crescent Walk**  
From low \$400,000's. Crescent Walk presents the perfect opportunity to own a home in the heart of the community. Call 680-4100 or 925-743-1330.

**85 Pleasanton**  
From low \$100,000's. Beautiful, elegant homes in a great location. Call 680-4100 or 925-743-1330.

**86 Brille Creek**  
From low \$100,000's. Beautiful, elegant homes in a great location. Call 680-4100 or 925-743-1330.

**87 Nolan Ranch**  
From the mid \$300,000's. Models now open! 31 luxurious, 5+ bedrooms, 3+ bathrooms. Call 680-4100 or 925-743-1330.

**88 Rivasco at Ruby Hill**  
From \$1.55 million. LUXURY RELEASE! Elegant 4-5 bedrooms, 3+ bathrooms. Call 680-4100 or 925-743-1330.

**89 The Avenue Estates**  
From the \$300,000's. 3 models, 4 to 5 bedrooms, 2 to 3 bathrooms. Call 680-4100 or 925-743-1330.

**90 Canyon Oaks**  
From the high \$400,000's. Grand opening! Beautiful new homes in gorgeous hillsides by Richmond American Homes. Call 680-4100 or 925-743-1330.

**91 Cypress at Country Club Vista**  
From the upper \$300,000's. Cypress is a series of 34 new homes in a great location. Call 680-4100 or 925-743-1330.

**92 Solymar at Country Club Vista**  
From the upper \$300,000's. Solymar is a series of 34 new homes in a great location. Call 680-4100 or 925-743-1330.

**93 San Ramon**  
From low \$300,000's. Set in the rolling hills of San Ramon with views of Mt. Diablo. Features 3, 4 & 5 bedrooms, 2-3 bathrooms. Call 680-4100 or 925-743-1330.

**94 Norris Canyon Estates**  
From the low \$100,000's. Exclusive estate homes in a quiet setting. Call 680-4100 or 925-743-1330.

**95 Terrazzo - Coming Soon!**  
Up to 3394 square feet and 5 bedrooms. Open daily 11-5. Mondays - 12. For more information, call 925-855-1100. www.brookdalehomes.com. Location on Alameda between Bolinger and Alameda.

**96 The Bridges at Gale Ranch**  
From low \$400,000's. 1354-3822 sq. ft. single family 4+ bedrooms, 2-3 bathrooms. Call 680-4100 or 925-743-1330.

**Townsquare**  
From the low \$300,000's. Exciting single family homes in Santa Rosa 4 versatile floorplans remain with 3 & 4 BR, 2.5 & 3 baths. Call 680-4100 or 925-743-1330.

**Heritage Pointe**  
Now Selling! From the high \$200,000's. New neighborhood - 5 floorplans, 3 & 4 BR, up to 1745 sq. ft. near Hwy 12 & 101. Call 680-4100 or 925-743-1330.

**Stockton**  
**99 Portofino at La Morada**  
From low \$200,000's. 3 to 6 bdrn homes ranging from 1820 to 3000 sq. ft. Close to shopping & schools. Call 680-4100 or 925-743-1330.

**100 Bellagio at Weston Ranch**  
Coming Soon! From low \$200,000's. 3-6 BR homes ranging from 1820 to 3000 sq. ft. Close to shopping & schools. Call 680-4100 or 925-743-1330.

**Suisun City**  
**101 Palmetto**  
From the low \$300,000's. Large Beautiful 3-6 BR homes. Call 680-4100 or 925-743-1330.

**Cornerstone & Soney Glen at Westgate**  
From low \$300,000's. Area's Best Buy. Call 680-4100 or 925-743-1330.

**Sandpiper Cove at Hidden Lake**  
From the mid \$300,000's. Charming 3 & 4 BR homes in a masterplanned setting. Call 680-4100 or 925-743-1330.

**Redview II**  
From the \$300,000's. Beautiful new community in prestigious Edgewood Master Plan in the highly acclaimed Jefferson School district. Call 680-4100 or 925-743-1330.

**Crown Pointe**  
From the mid \$300,000's. Exclusive new community in highly acclaimed Jefferson School district. Call 680-4100 or 925-743-1330.

**San Marco**  
From the \$300,000's. Beautiful new community in highly acclaimed Jefferson School district. Call 680-4100 or 925-743-1330.

**Savoy**  
From the low \$300,000's. Beautiful, 4-5 BR homes, up to 2414 sq. ft. Easy commute to I-580. Call 680-4100 or 925-743-1330.

**Vacaville**  
**108 CA Springs**  
From low \$300,000's. Floor plans will go to 4017 sq. ft. 3-5 BR. Easy access to I-580. Call 680-4100 or 925-743-1330.

**109 Canterfield**  
From low \$300,000's. 3-5 BR homes, up to 2,044 to 4,317 sq. ft. featuring 3-5 bdrms with bonus room. Call 680-4100 or 925-743-1330.

**110 Countryside**  
From the mid \$300,000's. 2 models, 4 to 5 bedrooms, 2 to 3 bathrooms. Call 680-4100 or 925-743-1330.

**111 Westgate Village**  
From low \$200,000's. 4-5 bedrooms, 3+ bathrooms, 4+BR & 1382-2043 sq. ft. Call 680-4100 or 925-743-1330.

**112 Bella Vista - Builder Closeout!**  
From the \$300,000's. Bella Vista offers a full line of homes ranging from 1820-3000 sq. ft. Call 680-4100 or 925-743-1330.

**113 Estancia at Hiddenbrooke**  
New previewing! Richmond American & new community in the heart of the community. Call 680-4100 or 925-743-1330.

**114 Castello at Hiddenbrooke**  
New previewing! Escape to a hidden oasis. Richmond American's new masterplanned community. Call 680-4100 or 925-743-1330.

**115 The Knolls at Hiddenbrooke**  
Active Adult Community age 55 and better in the hiddenbrooke Valley. Call 680-4100 or 925-743-1330.

**116 Milano**  
From low \$400,000's. Extraordinary residences with 2757 to 9,135 sq. ft. 4 to 6 BR, 2-4 car garages. Call 680-4100 or 925-743-1330.







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**51 Plumbing, Heating & Air Conditioning**  
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**Berkeley, 1941 Yosemite Rd. New Listing! Open Sun., 2-4.**  
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**Barbara Conheim • 524-9888 x28 \$695,000**



**El Cerrito, 7550 Terrace. New Listing! Open Sun., 2-4.**  
 Traditional 2+ bdrm with an exceptionally large liv. rm w/ fireplace, formal dining rm, and an eat-in kitchen w/access to deck & blyd. the lot is enormous (11,220 sq. ft.) and lush. This home can entertain a crowd, and there is plenty of room for expansion. The former owner used the downstairs space as a large 3rd bdrm. There is a carport, an attached garage, a workshop & tons of closets & storage.  
**Tracy Sichterman • 524-9888 x27 \$375,000**



**Berkeley, 737 Spruce St. Open Sun., 2-4:30.**  
 Find elegance & convenience in this North Berkeley view home. Three spacious bedrooms with views of the Bay. Two and one-half updated bathrooms. Elegant kitchen with granite and custom cabinets. Fireplace, FDR, easy access to U.C., Tilden & Gourmet Ghetto.  
**Arlene Baxter • 524-9888 x19 \$660,000**



**Berkeley, 790 Keeler. New Listing! Open Sun., 2-4.**  
 First time on market in 35 years. 3 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, spacious living room with fireplace, family room with fireplace. Deck off living room faces the Bay view. Potential in-law set-up. Separate garage.  
**Joan Brunswick • 524-9888 x12 \$575,000**



**Berkeley, 1609-11 Josephine. Open Sun., 2-4.**  
 Brown shingle duplex. Down: 2 bedrooms, front parlor, glassed-in porch, hwd floors, large deck. Up: 1 bedroom or light-filled artist studio w/soaring ceilings and deck. Large fenced garden. Separate darkroom. Original charm with upgrades.  
**Gay or Kay • 524-9888 x51 \$619,000**

# Don't miss the Open Home Guide on page B1

## This Townhouse is Awesome!



**3038 Halcyon Court**  
**Unit E, Berkeley**  
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Cozy 2 bedroom, 1.5 bath two-story condo with private patio. Easy walk to campus and BART, near housing community park. Move-in condition!  
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### ★ Indicates Homes Being Held Open

#### Oakland/Piedmont

★ Open Sunday! 2-4:30 \$1,750,000  
 6075 Manchester Dr - Price reduced! Elegant 1912 mansion w/ 6 bedrooms/4++ baths and 3-bridge view!  
**Gene Boomer 510-339-9290**

★ Open Sunday! 2-4:30 \$1,735,000  
 5140 Proctor - New August Co. 5 bedroom/3 1/2 bath. Mediterranean w/ gourmet kitchen and San Francisco views!  
**Heidi Marchessotti 510-339-9290**

**Top Piedmont Home \$1,195,000**  
 Fabulous 4 bedroom, 3.5 bath, den, family room, natural wood builtins, great floor plan. Special!  
**Amberson McCulloch 510-834-2010**

**Upper Rockridge Tudor \$1,145,000**  
 Elegant 5+ bedroom/3 1/2 bath home w/ Golden Gate view, custom kitchen, slate decks and fully landscaped.  
**Kathy Florence 510-339-9290**



★ Open Sunday! 2-5  
**Classic Mediterranean \$875,000**  
 1100 Mandana Blvd - Two story 6 bedroom, 3 bath/living room w/ fireplace. Amenities galore!  
**Barbara Hopper 510-845-0211**

**Piedmont Pines - Montclair \$739,000**  
 View + privacy newer home, wrap around decks indoor/outdoor, 3 bedroom, vaulted ceilings, fireplace. Master suite pristine!  
**Colette Ford 510-845-0211**

★ Open Sunday! 2-4:30 \$698,000  
 20 Avonak Ct - Private 3+ bedrooms/2+ baths home. Country setting w/ serene canyon views. Just Listed!  
**Myrtice Wong 510-339-9290**



**Upper Rockridge \$690,000**  
 Wonderful light-filled four bedroom 1+ bath, 2-story family home. Clean + spacious original details. Quiet-7 blocks to BART.  
**Roxanne Bruns 510-869-5609 510-845-0200**

**Lake Merritt Luxury Co-op \$575,000**  
 Rare 3 bedroom beauty, 1774 square feet, parquet floors. Lake + City views. Top security building - 24 hours. Indoor parking.  
**Caroline Slotemaker-de-Bruine 510-845-0211**

#### Oakland/Piedmont

**Rockridge Chamer \$530,000**  
 3 bedroom, 2 bath with great yard and patio. Extra room in basement. Close to BART, shops, cafes, freeway  
**Lis Hubbard 510-464-4498 510-849-3711**

**Artistic Lifestyle \$499,000**  
 Beautiful 2 story loft in Portico building near Jack London Square. 1+ or 2 bedroom loft with tons of light!  
**Joan Morrow 510-845-0200**

**Investment Opportunity \$454,900**  
 East Oakland 5 units: 3-1 bed, 1-2bed, 1-3bed. Good income with upside. Upcoming area.  
**Claudia Brown 510-407-5799**

★ Open Sunday 2-4 \$449,000  
 642 El Dorado. New Price. Beautifully restored Dutch Colonial! Tour:  
[www.pruweb.com](http://www.pruweb.com)  
**Terrence Jue 510-524-2526**

**Spacious & Light! \$339,000**  
 2 bedroom 2 bath corner unit. Huge master suite, top floor, lovely vistas. Restaurants / shops nearby  
**Anne Deichler 510-428-0900**

**Charm & Character \$320,000**  
 Lovely & spacious Spanish Mediterranean with original details. 2 fireplaces, 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Nice area.  
**Sandi Porter 510-834-2010**



★ Open Sunday 2-4 \$280,000  
 914 Stanford. Unique Townhouse. 3 bedroom 1 1/2 bath spacious open floor plan. Fireplace, new roof; new paint. Open, Sunday 2-4:30  
**Henriette 510-834-2010**

**Charming Maxwell Park \$269,000**  
 Sunny home. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, many current improvements. Hardwood floors, fireplace, laundry garage etc. Corner lot, great starter.  
**Herman Luna 510-464-1354**

**Jack London Square \$210,000**  
 Charming large 1 bedroom, water view unit with designer features is Porto Bello complex with swimming, tennis and walk to BART.  
**Barbara Reynolds 510-287-9361 510-845-0200**

**Montclair Lot! \$175,000**  
 Skyline near Broadway Terrace. Downslope w/ all utilities. 12,000 square foot lot w/ 60 foot frontage.  
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**Alameda \$650,000**  
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**Ms "Sam" McDowell 510-869-5418**

#### Berkeley/Albany

★ Open Sunday 2-4:30 \$800,000  
 7380 Claremont Berkeley. Exquisitely remodeled home & adjacent lot-separate parcels. Gorgeous high quality upgrades! Must see!  
**Denise Millum 510-464-4498 510-849-3711**

★ Open Sunday 2-4 \$825,000  
 1844 Vine Berkeley. Home + Income. 3+ bedroom 2 bath colonial mansion + 2 bedroom cottage! Many improvements!  
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**Elmwood Brown Shingle \$870,000**  
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 3110 Ellis, Berkeley. C 3 bedroom, 2 bath traditio. Wonderful backyard, walk to BART  
**Barbara Levy 510-464-4498 510-849-3711**

**Fabulous View of Golden Gate \$800,000**  
 2 bedroom / 2 bath, private front and back yards, bonus rooms, large deck, lots of potential! Must see  
**June McDaniels 510-464-4498 510-849-3711**

★ Open Sunday 1-4 \$800,000  
 1543 Julia Street, Berkeley. 3 bedroom, 2 bath formal dining room, garage, great yard, etc.  
**Rayne Palmer 510-834-2010**

**Contra Costa \$800,000**  
 ★ Open Sunday! 2-4:30 \$800,000  
 4590 Tudlumme Wa. charming 3 bedroom/2 w/ updated kitchen and  
**Mahin Rajan 510-834-2010**

★ Open Sunday! 1-4 \$800,000  
 221 Buena Vista Dr - Pinole. Price reduced on 3 bedrooms 1/2 bath executive home w/ 2100 square feet.  
**Ed Marshall 510-834-2010**

**Richmond View Home! \$800,000**  
 3 bedroom, hardwood floors, large lot. Great block!  
**Victoria Curtis 510-834-2010**

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# SPORTS

• Friday, July 20, 2001 •

Section C

**Arts** 'Sweethearts' a bit too darling [C3]

**Arts** East Bay and San Francisco movie listings [C4]



RON SALSIG  
Range Rat

## Ranging fairway and wide

Today a large bucket from the range, scattered in many different directions:

■ Tom Lehman was the last to win at Royal Lytham, site of this week's British Open, and there is a local angle.

■ At the 1996 victory ceremony, Lehman gave credit to his mentor, Dudley Logan, who grew up in Berkeley playing Tilden Park Golf Course. Logan, a golf bum the first order, who lives in a trailer outside of Rohnert Park, does not understand the fuss. His phone rang all night (the media had tracked him down), and he met when both were on the mini-tours, at the People's Club in Alameda.

■ In golf, pros are still golfing if they haven't made it to the tour.

■ Pay attention to the British Open this weekend to learn more about "Links" golf courses, such as the one Alameda will build. These big holes in the ground are not like our carefully manicured and picturesque "sand traps" at all. And note how the course was built to accommodate wind off the ocean. On American golf courses, you throw the ball up in the air and make it roll. Over there, it rolls.

■ The East Bay Regional Championship at Tilden Park, one of the oldest amateur championships in Northern California and the only 72-hole championship in the Bay Area, is this week. Takayama, a 19th edition on July 28. Last year Randy Haag became the first five-time winner.

■ Mika Takayama of Alameda won her second USGA medal in many weeks. Takayama, a 19th edition on July 28. Last year Randy Haag became the first five-time winner.

See SALSIG, Page C2



IN A CLOUD OF DUST, Albany's Jason Haller slid safely into second base during his All-Star team's game against North Oakland July 18. Playing in the District 4 Senior Division championship game in Walnut Creek, Albany battled valiantly before bowing to North Oakland 13-11.

## Albany one rally short

**Albany 'Stars' season ends with back-and-forth thriller**

By Mike McGreehan  
STAFF WRITER

WALNUT CREEK — The Albany Little League Senior Division All-Stars staged a good old-fashioned slugfest against North Oakland, as the teams combined for 24 runs in the District 4 Tournament final at Northgate High School on Wednesday evening.

The game had all the excitement a fan could ask. One team gets a big lead, then the other comes back to establish a big lead of its own. In the end, though, it was North Oakland that staged a final dramatic comeback, scoring two runs in the top of the seventh inning to claim the district title with a 13-11 win.

North Oakland looked to be an easy winner after scoring five times in the top of the first inning. But Albany came back, scoring nine runs in the fourth to turn a five-run deficit into a four-run lead. Oakland then staged its own comeback for the

win, the district title and the right to advance to regional competition at Northgate High on Sunday afternoon at 4.

"We've done that all year — got into a hole early and then fought back," said Albany co-coach Stephen DeGange. "I expected to come back in the last inning, too."

Albany's Senior All-Stars are made up of the same players as the Albany Kings, the league's only regular-season team. During the regular season, the Kings played in a special league with teams from Pinole-Hercules, Pittsburg National, Clayton Valley, Walnut Creek and Concord

American. Combined, the Kings and All-Stars went 16-2, coming from behind for many of their wins.

The Albany All-Stars came from behind against North Oakland, too. Trouble was, they couldn't do it often enough.

After North Oakland put up five runs in the top of the first inning, Albany came back for

### Little League

All-Star baseball, Seniors  
No. Oakland 13  
Albany 11

## Albany edges into title game

By Scott Strain  
STAFF WRITER

WALNUT CREEK — The strong right arm of Alec Carlin was the key to Albany's 6-3 victory over Pittsburg National in this losers' bracket game on July 12 at Northgate High.

Played in the evening, the victory propelled Albany into the championship game against North Oakland on Wednesday. Albany lost to North Oakland 12-8 Saturday in a winners' bracket game after defeating East County 19-6 on July 10 at Memorial Park. Albany got a forfeit victory against South Oakland in the first round.

Carlin allowed just six hits to a speedy Pitt team and got some good defensive plays — and one great one — behind him. He struck out just one batter in the seven-inning affair, so he needed the defensive help.

Carlin gave up two runs in the top of the first and got some fine defense to limit the damage. With two on an none out, Ryan Brog hit a ball to third baseman Jason Haller, who threw to first baseman Max Shapiro for the first out. Shapiro then alertly threw to catcher Dan Thompson to get Pitt runner Daniel Casadas for the double play.

Albany tied the game in the bottom of the first when leadoff hitter Jacob Fong singled, went to second on a groundout, stole third and came home on a wild pitch. Jonathan Smith then singled to left with two outs, stole second and scored when Oliver Monday popped a short single to right.

Pittsburg took a 3-2 lead with

See FINAL, Page C1

See SENIORS, Page C2

## Lodree strikes silver in Europe

**Stylish Gaucho turns heads at IAAF World Championships in Hungary**

By Phil Jensen  
TIMES STAFF WRITER

Ashley Lodree and her USA Track and Field teammates were a lot of attention last week in Budapest, Hungary — both on the track and off it.

We walked around with USA Track and Field people everywhere we went, starting at us," Lodree said. "Hours after she had returned to the Bay Area. 'People' their cars would stop and look at us."

Lodree, a 15-year-old El Cerrito High School student, better known to the attention. She won a silver medal in Friday's 100-meter hurdles at the IAAF World Youth Athletics Championships with a time of 13.75 seconds.

Besides being a personal best, the time will most likely be ratified as a national record for the intermediate girls (15-16 years old) division. It will be considered for ratification at the IAAF Track and Field annual meeting in late November.

"I'm feeling confident that (the IAAF governing body) will approve this as a record," Denise Geissler, youth record chair for USA Track and Field, said on Saturday. Before Lodree's clocking, the fastest time in the U.S. intermediate girls division was set by Yolanda Johnson of Alameda in 1984.

After Thursday's 100 hurdles preliminaries, Lodree knew she could compete on the world youth level. Despite getting a slow start because of unfamiliarity with the meet's starting system, she raced to second place in her heat with a time of 13.98, only .08 off her personal best.

"They had a siren go off," said Lodree about the start, compared to the sound of a starting gun that starts most U.S. high school meets. "I was in last place out of the blocks. I had to speed up. I had a slow start, yet I ran 13.9."

Lodree's performance on Friday was astounding. She won her semifinal heat with a personal record of 13.78, then less than three hours later placed second in the final and cut .03 off her fresh personal best.

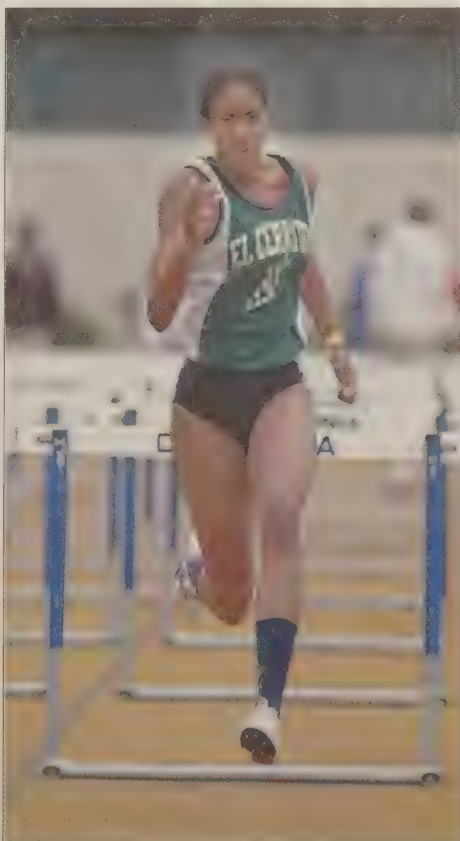
In the final, Lodree set her mark despite hitting a hurdle. "I had a good start, we were all (together), then I hit the eighth hurdle," she said. "I just fought through (the race)."

Germany's Kathrin Geissler won the race with an outstanding time of 13.49. Lodree was impressed with the tall athlete.

"She could have been 6-foot-5, and I'm not exaggerating," Lodree said.

On Saturday, Lodree got a surprise. "The head coach (Ron

See LODREE, Page C1



GREGORY URQUIAGA/STAFF

**LEAPING A FEW HURDLES**, El Cerrito's Ashley Lodree, seen here winning the 100 meter hurdles during the North Coast Section track and field meet in May, took a silver medal in the 100 meter hurdles at the IAAF World Youth Athletics Championships held in Hungary last weekend.

## Shaughnessy & son, fb coaches

By Phil Jensen  
STAFF WRITER

The chance to coach with his son was too good to pass up for Dan Shaughnessy.

Shaughnessy, the legendary former St. Mary's High School football coach, will be coaching offensive linemen and linebackers this fall at Tamalpais High School in Mill Valley. His son Jake, 28, recently was named the school's head football coach.

"It has always been a lifetime dream," said Dan Shaughnessy about being on a coaching staff with his son. "It's going to be fun. It's really exciting."

After the final game of the 2000 regular season, Shaughnessy said he was going to retire from coaching at St. Mary's. He retired from teaching at St. Mary's at the end of the 2000-2001 school year.

But his heart remained on the gridiron.

"I was never going to retire from coaching, just the other stuff," said Shaughnessy, who was also St. Mary's athletics director. "Just being on the field with the kids — that was fun."

The upcoming season will be the first time that Shaughnessy, 65, has been an assistant coach since he coached linemen and linebackers 34 years ago at USF.

"It's going to be different. I haven't done it for a long time," Shaughnessy said.

"I know from experience that kids love him. He has good rapport," said Jake Shaughnessy, who coached freshman football and was an assistant varsity coach at St. Mary's for one season while attending Cal from 1992-96. "He's a very, very knowledgeable coach."

Dan Shaughnessy had planned to join his son at Marin Catholic, where Jake was an assistant coach. But after participating in spring practices, both father and son moved to Tamalpais when Jake was hired in late June.

Dan Shaughnessy compiled a 254-118-6 record with 16 league championships and 14 North Coast Section playoff berths since the 1969 season. He coached at Salesian from 1969-1984 before moving to St. Mary's for the 1985 season.

He also coached at Christian Brothers in Sacramento and St. Mary's in the 1960s.

### BRIEFS

#### Golf

The Galbraith Junior Golf Program will send 13 young golfers to Portland, OR, to compete in the 21st annual Western States Golf Association Junior Tournament. The tournament is to be held August 6 through 10. The club is seeking donations

of \$425 per child or \$5,700 for the whole trip. The cost pays for transportation, two practice rounds of golf and room and board.

Companies and individuals able to help should contact Clarence Washington at (510) 569-5682, or e-mail him at oaklandboyz@aol.com.





**ALEC CARLIN PITCHED ALBANY** into the District 4 Senior Division championship round, limiting Pittsburg National to six hits on July 17. Playing at Northgate High School in Walnut Creek, Albany defeated Pittsburg 6-3.

Seniors

FROM PAGE C1

out the benefit of hit in the third, but further damage was prevented when Smith, playing center, ranged far to his left to catch a sinking liner by Brog.

Albany never got the big hit to put Pitt away, but did take a 4-3 lead in the fourth without getting a hit. Ian Stewart drew a one-out walk and went to second on a wild pitch. Nick Garcia was safe on an error, Stewart going to third. Stewart scored and Garcia went to third on a passed ball. Fong drove in Garcia with the go-ahead run with a grounder to third.

Albany got its fifth run in the fifth when Haller doubled and Shapiro singled. Carlin gave up hits in the last three innings, but Thompson gunned David Tovar down on a steal attempt in the fifth and Stewart, playing left, made a twisting, diving catch of Drew Hogan line drive with a runner on second and one out in the sixth.

Stewart's play sort of deflated Pitt. Albany added a run in the sixth when Carlin walked, went to second on a wild pitch and Smith popped a single to right.

Salsig

FROM PAGE C1

also had the low score at qualifying for the U.S. Women's Amateur, shooting 70 at Eagle Ridge GC in Gilroy to win medalist honors by four strokes.

Other qualifiers from Gilroy were Marcia Wallis of Los Gatos, Lynn Cowan of Davis, Wendra Liang of Alameda and Jessica Reese of Santa Rosa. The US Women's Amateur is July 30 - Aug. 4 at Flint Hills National GC in Kansas. The U.S. Girls Junior is next week at Indian Hills CC in Mission Hills, Kansas.

■ Takayama and company are currently in San Diego, playing in the Junior Worlds. Where Tiger Woods got his start. After two rounds of the girls' championship, Takayama (74-73) is in seventh place. Jon Burkard, who won the boys' overall East Bay Junior title, shot 82-72. Blake Yu shot 84-78.

**N. Oakland 12, Albany 8**

WALNUT CREEK — Albany gave the powerful North Oakland team its biggest test on Saturday but still lost.

North Oakland had scored 54 runs in three games and was hitting .484 coming into the game at Northgate, but found that familiarity breeds a close game.

"Most of these players know each other," Albany coach Vince Phillips said. "We both have players from Berkeley and it's not as though we are playing a new team."

The game started off as another North Oakland romp as Albany found itself down 9-1 after three innings. Albany's only show of power was Monday's solo home run in the second, a 315-foot blast over the left-field fence.

Albany scored two runs in the fourth inning when Matt Thompson walked and went to second on a pop single to center by Garcia. Dan Thompson lined a double to center that scored his

brother and sent Garcia to third. Carlin's infield single scored Garcia for 9-3.

North Oakland scored two runs in the bottom of the fifth before Albany cut the lead to 11-7 with four runs in the sixth as NOLL used three pitchers in the inning to try and stop the bleeding. Nine men went to the plate in that inning, with Carlin and Stewart driving in runs with hits. The other two scored on wild pitches.

North Oakland scored another run in the bottom of the sixth but Albany got its final run in the top of the seventh when Garcia doubled, went to third on a wild pitch and scored on a grounder by Carlin.

Each team got 13 hits in the game, but Phillips was particularly impressed with the work of Matt Thompson, who came on in relief in the second inning. Thompson threw a variety of off-speed pitches that temporarily stymied the NOLL hitters.

"I thought Matt did an awesome job on the mound," Phillips said. "He came in and gave that team some problems."

Final

FROM PAGE C1

sinout the benefit of hit in the third, but further damage was prevented when Smith, playing center, ranged far to his left to catch a sinking liner by Brog.

Albany never got the big hit to put Pitt away, but did take a 4-3 lead in the fourth without getting a hit. Ian Stewart drew a one-out walk and went to second on a wild pitch. Nick Garcia was safe on an error, Stewart going to third. Stewart scored and Garcia went to third on a passed ball. Fong drove in Garcia with the go-ahead run with a grounder to third.

Albany got its fifth run in the fifth when Haller doubled and Shapiro singled. Carlin gave up hits in the last three innings, but Thompson gunned David Tovar down on a steal attempt in the fifth and Stewart, playing left, made a twisting, diving catch of Drew Hogan line drive with a runner on second and one out in the sixth.

Stewart's play sort of deflated Pitt. Albany added a run in the sixth when Carlin walked, went to second on a wild pitch and Smith popped a single to right.

**N. Oakland 12, Albany 8**

WALNUT CREEK — Albany gave the powerful North Oakland team its biggest test on Saturday but still lost.

North Oakland had scored 54 runs in three games and was hitting .484 coming into the game at Northgate, but found that familiarity breeds a close game.

"Most of these players know each other," Albany coach Vince Phillips said. "We both have players from Berkeley and it's not as though we are playing a new team."

The game started off as another North Oakland romp as Albany found itself down 9-1 after three innings. Albany's only show of power was Monday's solo home run in the second, a 315-foot blast over the left-field fence.

Albany scored two runs in the fourth inning when Matt Thompson walked and went to second



**ALBANY'S JASON HULLER** started the District 4 championship game for Albany. North Oakland defeated Albany 13-4.

on a pop single to center by Garcia. Dan Thompson lined a double to center that scored his brother and sent Garcia to third. Carlin's infield single scored Garcia for 9-3.

North Oakland scored two runs in the bottom of the fifth before Albany cut the lead to 11-7 with four runs in the sixth as NOLL used three pitchers in the inning to try and stop the bleeding. Nine men went to the plate in that inning, with Carlin and Stewart driving in runs with hits. The other two scored on wild pitches.

North Oakland scored another

Lodree

FROM PAGE C1

Williams asked me if I could step up and run the (medley) relay," Lodree said. "I was honored to do that."

Lodree said that an injury to sprinter Tissilli Rogers in the 100 meters left the U.S. relay squad short-handed. It turned out to be a break for Lodree, who earned a gold medal with her teammates in the relay, which consisted of

legs of 100, 200, 300 and 400 meters.

The team of the U.S. Felix, Angel Stephanie Smith breezed the relay with a time of two 3.83 seconds. The U.S. girls teams finished with a championship-high 15 medals including five golds.

At the California Interscholastic Federation State Field Championships on Lodree finished fifth in the hurdles with a time of 13.94.

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# Arts

## 'Sweethearts' a bit too darling

■ Screwball comedy has its charm, but the love story aspect is unbelievable — and at times irritating

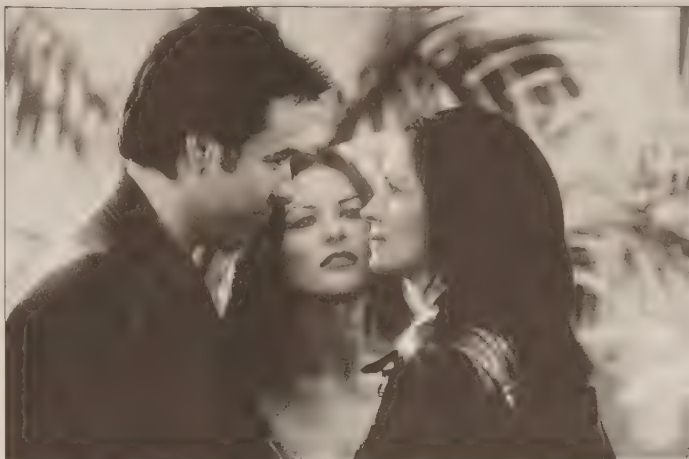
By Mary F. Pols  
STAFF WRITER

Something is amiss with our requisite summertime Julia Roberts romantic comedy, and it's very, very distressing.

See, she's in "America's Sweethearts," but she's practically a guest star, dropping by for a few scenes in which she — Julia, mind you, *our* Julia, America's true sweetheart — takes a total back seat to that wench from Wales, Catherine Zeta-Jones. Moreover, you hardly give a hoot about whether Julia gets the guy, even though he's the ultra-adorable John Cusack.

Is the planet out of alignment or something?

As summer-blockbuster fare goes, "America's Sweethearts," an insider look at the Hollywood machine filled with spot-on parodies of celebrities, spiritual healers, studio heads, movie directors, publicists and even members of the illustrious entertainment press corps, is pleas-



JOHN CUSACK and Julia Roberts pitch woo in "America's Sweethearts," but it's Catherine Zeta-Jones, center, who's the scene-stealer.

ant piffle, an enjoyable night out. The jokes skip along merrily at the beginning, and you settle back feeling a tad irritated by the cutesy tinkling score, but gener-

ally good about what's to come.

That engagement continues until about halfway through, when the screwball comedy we've been promised dissolves

into an unbelievable love story that has to be resolved with a scene stolen from "Notting Hill."

See REVIEW, Page C5

## 'West Side Story' still can stand up to the standard

**A**BOUT THE TIME you think there's nothing new and engaging to say about a familiar and revered classic of theater magic, something comes along to upset your complacency. Such a "something" for today's outing is the current production at Contra Costa Civic Theatre of "West Side Story."

It's a stunning show: visually exciting, smartly paced, colorfully dressed, sung with clarity and soaring to catharsis at its heart-searing finish. This is community theater at its pinnacle.

The first tip-off that CCCT is aiming high for this production comes when the lights go up on Matt Flynn's spectacular two-story set. Upstage, a tawny and tattered structure suggests the steamy oppression of tenement life. Across the middle of the stage, from wing to wing, a massive jungle gym of steel scaffolding conveys an animalistic feel, as if conveying a force of natural wildness.

When the action moves to the drugstore, a soda fountain counter, complete with those traditional stools we've all perched on, comes down from the fly space above.

A quick fade to dark and the space becomes Maria's bedroom.

These are the behind-the-scenes technicalities of a pro-



JACK TUCKER  
Community Theater

duction that makes the artistry onstage so mesmerizing. Take a bow, Flynn, Jennifer Furnari and E.T. Hazzard (lighting), Paul J. White and Catherine Schutz (costuming), Aubrey McClellan (master carpenter) and his crew, Marlyse Young (choreography), Evan Brody (combat choreography — breathtaking), and Lisa Wolfman (property manager).

Kathleen Ray directs with a sure hand (which apparently holds a stopwatch, too; no lags). And, of course, there is that unforgettable music under the direction of Joanne Gabel on keyboard with Andrew Gabel (keyboard) and Jack Kerns and Tom Kingshill (percussion).

Dan LeGate as Tony and Leslie Noel as Maria — the heart and heartbreak of "West Side Story" — are beautifully matched in these pivotal roles. They get superb support from a large cast, notably Zachary Richards as Riff, leader of the Jets; Michael F. Ortiz as Bernardo, leader of the Sharks; and



MICHAEL ORTIZ, left, and Zachary Ricard fight with knives during the rumble scene in a rehearsal of "West Side Story" at the Contra Costa Civic Theatre.

Danielle Dubois as Anita.

The role of Doc, the conscience of the story, is played by Louis Flynn with an emotional intensity that cuts to the very heart of the despair we feel for these young lives destroying themselves.

A winner all around, "West Side Story" plays at Contra Costa Civic Theatre, 951 Pomona Ave., El Cerrito, at 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays through Aug. 11, with 2 p.m. matinees today and July 22, 29 and Aug. 5. Tickets are \$15 general; \$6 for youths 16 and younger. Call 510-524-9132.

STINSON MOB SCENE: If

you like your "Romeo and Juliet" using the names and lines that Shakespeare gave the characters in the 1595 original — but that's about all — hear this: Shakespeare at Stinson is doing the play as a late 1940s-style war between rival mob families against a bebop and jazz background laced with the music of Charlie Parker and Dizzy Gillespie.

"But we're not messing with the words," confides producing director Jeffrey Trotter, adding "there is something of 'West Side Story' in it."

See TUCKER, Page C5

### ARTS BEAT

#### Live bluegrass at Albatross Pub

BERKELEY — The El Cerrito-based Whiskey Brothers bring their blend of classic western swing, bluegrass and original music, featuring great vocal harmonies to the Albatross Pub, 1822 San Pablo Ave., on Wednesday, Aug. 1, from 9-11 p.m.

The band has local music-scene veterans Jeff Ward on mandolin and guitar, Craig Fletcher on banjo and guitar, John MacFarlane on fiddle, and Ran Bush on acoustic bass.

The 1-year-old acoustic group also plays regularly at the El Cerrito Farmers' Market.

#### Mostly Baroque performing Saturday

BERKELEY — Hear instrumental works of Bach, Boismortier, Handel and Soler, vocal works of Clerambault (cantatas Polipheme and L'Amour et Bacus) and Strozzi, performed by Mostly Baroque, a group of local baroque musicians dedicated to accurate performance of early music on Saturday, July 21, at 8 p.m. at Church of Saint Mary Magdalen at 2005 Berryman at Milvia streets. Donations voluntarily.

#### S.F. Symphony musicians to play

BERKELEY — Chamber Music Sundaes will present San

Francisco Symphony musicians in a concert at 3:15 p.m. today at St. John's Presbyterian Church, 2727 College Ave.

The program includes Paganini's Guitar Trio, with concertmaster Nadya Tichman and her husband, John Imholz, on guitar; a Dvorak quintet; and the Berkeley Horn Trio featuring principal horn Bob Ward.

Tickets at the door are \$16 general admission, \$13 for seniors and students, and \$7 for youths under 18. Call 415-584-5946.

#### Group to perform African music

RICHMOND — Fua Dia Congo will perform African music and dance Wednesday as part of the free outdoor summer concert series being presented by the East Bay Center for the Performing Arts, the Richmond Redevelopment Agency and the Richmond Main Street Program.

Shows begin at noon each Wednesday through Aug. 8 in front of Nevin Plaza, 12th Street and Nevin Avenue.

Each concert features a mixture of traditional and contemporary music and dance by the center's performance ensembles.

The Richmond BLOCO steel drums, BLOCO dancers, and Spoken Word artist Reginald Lockett will perform July 25; the Julius Melendez Latin Jazz Band and Son de la Tierra will perform Mexican music and dance Aug.

1.

The final concert will be performed by the Richmond Chamber Music Ensemble and Richmond Jazz Collective on Aug. 8. Call 510-234-4864.

#### Balladyre plays tonight

ALBANY — On the heels of last month's sold-out debut and a one-day road trip to the Main Street Tavern in Martinez, the El Cerrito band Balladyre will be at it again performing their combi-

nation of originals and blues covers on July 20 at Club Busb, 856 San Pablo Ave. in.

Drummer Michael "Bones" Borbridge has compiled another all-star line up of Bay Area musicians with guitarist Harvey "the Snake" Mandel and other special guests, starting at about 9 p.m. Don't miss out.

Places for dinner are sold out, but there will be room at the bar and on the floor. Details: 510-528-2878.

## Found objects turned into art

#### ■ Exhibit by Janet Lee Brown opens July 26 at the ARTSHIP Foundation

Janet Lee Brown combines found objects and assemblage to create art that deals with issues of consumption.

The ARTSHIP Foundation will be displaying her work in an eight-week exhibition at 1715 Broadway, Oakland. The exhibit opens July 26 and runs through Sept. 20.

It will be on display 24 hours a day. Janet Lee Brown will give a slide presentation for the ARTSHIP-hosted Tuesday Art Series at 7 p.m. July 24, at 54 Washington St. in Jack London Square.

Brown's assemblages begin with the found objects she's rescued from trash cans and dumpster, or picked up from the sidewalk and beach: bits of detritus no longer valued by their former owners.

She pulls these pieces of flotsam and jetsam from the waste stream, and interprets their stories. The story begins with something deemed worthless before evolving into something that breathes life.

Sometimes the story is hidden. A frame manufacturer discontinued a full box of corner samples.

They sat on the floor by Brown's kitchen door collecting

See OBJECTS, Page C5

### EVENTS

**Oakland Public Library — ALL BRANCHES** — "Read! Make It Your Thing!" through Aug. 6. Teens in grades 8 through 12 are invited to participate in the library's annual teen summer reading program. (510) 238-3848 or [www.oaklandlibrary.org](http://www.oaklandlibrary.org)

**OAKLAND HISTORY ROOM** — "Celebrating 50 Years of the Oakland History Room," through Sept. 15. This exhibit features rare photographs, programs, scrapbooks, postcards and manuscripts.

Main Library, 125 14th St. (510) 238-3222

**BROOKFIELD LIBRARY/BIBLIOTHECA BROOKFIELD** — "Gerald Joseph — Magic & Comedy," July 24, 3:30 p.m. 9255 Edes Ave. (510) 615-5725. **EASTMONT BRANCH** — "African American Genealogy Class," July 28, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Peggy Woodruff leads the course. (510) 615-5974.

7200 Bancroft Ave. (510) 615-5726

**GOLDEN GATE BRANCH** — "Book Discussion Group," July 24, 6:30 p.m. Every fourth Tuesday. 5606 San Pablo Ave. (510) 597-5023

**ROCKRIDGE BRANCH** — "Coffee Break R&R (Readings and Refreshments)," July 21, 4 p.m. to 5:15 p.m. With East Bay playwright Kari Ann Owen. 5366 College Ave. (510) 597-5017.

**WEST OAKLAND BRANCH** — "Chess Workshop for Children," Wednesdays, 4 p.m. to 5:20 p.m. 1801 Adeline St. (510) 597-5049. Free. Oakland. (510) 238-3134 or [www.oaklandlibrary.org](http://www.oaklandlibrary.org)

**Contra Costa County Library — ALL BRANCHES** — "Treasure Your Library Summer Reading Program," through Aug. 25. Children may participate in this reward-based program to encourage summer reading.

**KENSINGTON BRANCH** — "Family Story Time," Tuesdays, 7 p.m. through July 31. For all ages. Contra Costa County. (800) 984-INFO or [www.contra-costa.lib.ca.us/](http://www.contra-costa.lib.ca.us/)

**Cody's Bookstores** —

Lynne Hinton, July 20, 7 p.m. The author reads from "The Things I Know Best." At 1730 Fourth St. Brian Sykes, July 23. The author talks about "The Seven Daughters of Eve," about DNA study and the history of homo sapiens. Susann Cokal, July 24. The author discusses "Mirabilis," about hunger and sainthood in medieval France.

Alice Randall, July 25, 7 p.m. The author reads from "The Wind Done Gone," a literary reinvention of "Gone With the Wind" told from the point of view of Scarlett O'Hara's mulatto half-sister. At 1730 Fourth St.

**BOOK CLUBS** — Free. Readings at 7:30 p.m. and at 2454 Telegraph Ave. unless noted otherwise. Berkeley. (510) 845-7852.

**Marcus Book Store** —

Eric Jerome Dickey, July 26. The author talks about "Between Lovers," about a love triangle in Oakland.

Alice Randall, July 27. The author reads from "The Wind Done Gone," a literary reinvention of "Gone With the Wind" told from the point of view of Scarlett O'Hara's mulatto half-sister.

Barbara Neely, July 28. The author discusses "Blanche Passes Go," about intrigue and revenge. Events are free and start at 6:30 p.m. unless listed otherwise. 3900 Martin Luther King Jr. Way, Oakland. (510) 652-2344.

**Oakland's Historic Downtown Walking Tours** —

The tours cover downtown Oakland and its historic waterfront. All tours begin promptly at 10 a.m. and last about an hour and a half. Reservations are recommended but not required.

"First Tuesday Tour." Visit City Hall and learn about its restoration. The tour also visits Frank H. Ogawa Plaza and city administration buildings. Meet at the front steps of City Hall, 1 Frank H. Ogawa Plaza. **SUMMER DOWNTOWN WALKING TOURS** — through October.

"Old Oakland Historic District," July 21. A walk through Oakland's Victorian business district of the 1870s. Visit the Washington Inn, Ratto's International Grocer and Mi Rancho Delicatessen and Tortilla Factory. Reservations encouraged. Meet in front of Ratto's at Washington and 9th Streets.

"Uptown Art Deco to the Lake," July 25. Tour the beautiful Art Deco buildings of Oakland's Broadway business district. Learn the history of the 1930s merchants and marvel at the ornate tile and terra-cotta architecture. Reservations encouraged. Meet in front of the Paramount Theater, Broadway and 20th Street.

"Historic Churches and Temples," July 28. Visit three historic places of worship and learn about the architecture as well as the influence of the churches in the development of Oakland. Reservations encouraged. Meet at the First Presbyterian Church, Broadway at 27th Street.

Free. Oakland. (510) 238-3234 or [www.oaklandnet.com](http://www.oaklandnet.com)

See EVENTS, Page C5







# Minis

FROM PAGE C4

**"PEARL HARBOR":** A meatloaf sandwich on Wonder Bread: meaty action on the inside, surrounded by insubstantial, banal romantic material. Director Michael Bay does succeed in his 40-minute recreation of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, but he shows his limitations everywhere else. The romance between Kate Beckinsale's nurse and her two fly-bys, Josh Hartnett and Ben Affleck, does little to stir the senses. The dialogue is horrendous, of the "you're so beautiful it hurts" variety, and the acting is all about posing. Excessively loud and shot exclusively in golden light only, as if Bay had ordered up 24 hours of sunsets for his movie. Exhausting. — M. Pols. (R: language, violence and a scene of sexuality.) 1 hour, 3 minutes. C-

**"THE PRINCESS & THE WARRIOR":** Beautiful Sissi (Franka Potente) is rescued by handsome stranger Bodo (Benno Fürmann). Later, they find themselves embroiled in a chain of coincidences in this sort of metaphysical fairy tale with some dark twists and turns. Deeply whimsical beneath its poker face, the film has the structure of an elaborate mind-teasing puzzle as it toys with the notion of destiny. Somewhat reminiscent of director Tom Tykwer's previous puppy arthouse hit, "Run Lola Run"; he's created a decidedly more surreal variation here. Anyone who has narrowly escaped being struck by a speeding car would be intrigued by the movie's fascination with fate and tickled by the suggestion that life can sometimes provide a fairy-tale ending. Just don't expect this film to warm your heart. — S. Holden. (R: sexual situations and some violence.) 2 hours, 10 minutes. B+

**"SCARY MOVIE 2":** The Wayans brothers have succeeded in making a sequel that is even more vile than last summer's raunchy blockbuster. The spoof this time is on movies featuring paranormal activity, but the jokes are the same: sodomy and bodily fluids. If that sounds good, this one is for you. Personally, I'd rather go to the dentist than see this dreck ever again. — M. Pols. (R: sexual content, drugs and language.) 1 hour, 22 minutes. D-

**"THE SCORE":** A smart, well-executed and satisfying thriller that just happens to feature action legends from three generations, Robert De Niro, Edward Norton and, gasp, Marlon Brando. Director Frank Oz, typically a light-comedy guy, shows a sure hand in weaving a consistently suspenseful movie, despite the fact that the setup, the old one-last-heist-before-retirement gag, is completely tired. Brando's role isn't much more than a cameo, and De Niro doesn't do anything new, but Norton steals all his scenes as a punk kid who joins forces with De Niro for the heist. Some may be bothered by the nearly languid pace in outlining the criminal's methods, but it's a relief after the wham-bam of most action movies. — M. Pols. (R: language.) 2 hours, 1 minute. B+

**"THE MUMMY RETURNS":** Like its 1999 predecessor, it's virtually guaranteed to be a blockbuster, but this is a tiresome and confusing, loud, violent and so-and-so with special effects that you want to turn off a day when it finally gets to a close. The action picks up in 1926, about nine years after librarian Rick O'Connell (Brendan Fraser) first got together with his married now and have a son, Rick (Freddie Boath). They'd be living happily ever after if someone hadn't

woken up the mummy again, as well as an even more powerful character named the Scorpion King. Many of the special effects look too fake to be believed, and the plot is incomprehensible nonsense. — M. Pols. (PG-13) 2 hours, 1 minute. C-

**"SHREK":** An animated visual marvel, with all the beauty and realism of a Chris Van Allsburg children's book. Shrek (voiced by Mike Myers) is an insecure ogre, who makes a deal with evil Lord Farquaad (John Lithgow) to procure him a bride. Accompanied by a hilarious donkey (Eddie Murphy at his best), Shrek goes to rescue Princess Fiona (Cameron Diaz) from a dragon-guarded tower on high, and unexpectedly finds love. Plenty of bathroom humor (perhaps too much) for the kids, with some clever, more sophisticated stuff for parents. — M. Pols. (PG: mild language and some crude humor.) 1 hour, 27 minutes. B+

**"SONGCATCHER":** Janet McTeer plays turn-of-the-century musicologist Lily Penlith, who travels to Appalachia to spend time with her sister and discovers a treasure-trove of old Scots-Irish ballads being sung by the mountain people. She sets out to document the music and finds her own life radically changed by the folks she encounters. Featuring a great soundtrack from Iris DeMent (who has a small part) and Emmylou Harris. Unfortunately, there's a too-predictable narrative arc marring the movie, but it's still like a refreshing glass of lemonade in the midst of stupefying summertime fare. — M. Pols. (PG-13: sexual content and an intense scene of childbirth.) 1 hour, 49 minutes. B+

**"STARTUP.COM":** A riveting and tragic tale of two childhood friends who shared a dream of Internet success, saw their star rise and then watched it plummet even faster. The story has inherent human drama. And in the sure hands of co-director Chris Hegedus and her husband/producer, D.A. Pennebaker, they've created a poignant, insightful snapshot of our times, a personal look of our times, economy and society. — C. Lemire. (R: language.) 1 hour, 43 minutes. B+

**"SWORDFISH":** Boldly illogical and notable mostly for the brief appearance of Halle Berry's breasts. John Travolta plays a super-spy named Gabriel, who is cooking up a nefarious plan to steal government money to fund his anti-terrorist campaign. Hugh Jackman plays the computer hacker Gabriel hires to break into the federal computers, and he's pure movie star. Too bad about the movie; there's absolutely no logic to the plot. For instance, all this computer stuff should be a fairly quiet enterprise, but with Joel Silver producing, somehow a bank takeover, a hostage situation and a massive car chase involving an airborne bus are jammed into the story. — M. Pols. (R: violence, language and some sexuality/nudity.) 1 hour, 57 minutes. C

**"THE VERTICAL RAY OF THE SUN":** A ravishingly beautiful and sensual film that almost makes you forget there's not much of plot here. Written and directed by Tran Anh Hung, "Vertical" does have a story line; one that investigates love, marriage and faithfulness as they play out in the romantic lives of three Vietnamese sisters. But no one could come out of the movie speaking about the plot. The lure of "Vertical Ray" is its sophisticated blend of delicate musical, restrained acting and seemingly casual but immaculate use of breathtaking color. — K. Turan. (PG-13: thematic elements and some sex-related material.) 1 hour, 52 minutes. A-

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ody, but by the end you're just as desperate as the retired mobster to be free of him. — M. Pols. (R: sexual encounters, extreme violence, language.) 1 hour, 28 minutes. B+

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**"STARTUP.COM":** A riveting and tragic tale of two childhood friends who shared a dream of Internet success, saw their star rise and then watched it plummet even faster. The story has inherent human drama. And in the sure hands of co-director Chris Hegedus and her husband/producer, D.A. Pennebaker, they've created a poignant, insightful snapshot of our times, a personal look of our times, economy and society. — C. Lemire. (R: language.) 1 hour, 43 minutes. B+

**"SWORDFISH":** Boldly illogical and notable mostly for the brief appearance of Halle Berry's breasts. John Travolta plays a super-spy named Gabriel, who is cooking up a nefarious plan to steal government money to fund his anti-terrorist campaign. Hugh Jackman plays the computer hacker Gabriel hires to break into the federal computers, and he's pure movie star. Too bad about the movie; there's absolutely no logic to the plot. For instance, all this computer stuff should be a fairly quiet enterprise, but with Joel Silver producing, somehow a bank takeover, a hostage situation and a massive car chase involving an airborne bus are jammed into the story. — M. Pols. (R: violence, language and some sexuality/nudity.) 1 hour, 57 minutes. C

**"THE VERTICAL RAY OF THE SUN":** A ravishingly beautiful and sensual film that almost makes you forget there's not much of plot here. Written and directed by Tran Anh Hung, "Vertical" does have a story line; one that investigates love, marriage and faithfulness as they play out in the romantic lives of three Vietnamese sisters. But no one could come out of the movie speaking about the plot. The lure of "Vertical Ray" is its sophisticated blend of delicate musical, restrained acting and seemingly casual but immaculate use of breathtaking color. — K. Turan. (PG-13: thematic elements and some sex-related material.) 1 hour, 52 minutes. A-

**The 16th Annual Berkeley Kite Festival & West Coast Kite Championships** — July 28 and July 29, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Experience the artistry of modern kite flying, including a team kite ballet. In addition there will be entertainment by Talpo Spirit taiko drummers, food, and more.

Free. Cesar E. Chavez Park, Berkeley Marina, Berkeley. (510) 235-3KITE or www.HighlineKites.com

**Artship Foundation Tuesday Art Series** — through July 31. Artists talk about their work and their processes.

Free. Tuesday, 7 p.m. 54 Washington St., Jack London Square, Oakland. (510) 268-4978 or www.artship.org

projects going at once. ("My house looks like the Winchester Mystery House on wheels," she laughs. "I tend to do strange things.") She's also a tireless community volunteer who makes handmade scarves and pillows — where does she find the time? — and donates them to the ALS Foundation, the Alameda Boys & Girls Club, and Children's Hospital Oakland's Family House.

"Working in radio, keeping sane hours, lets me indulge my inner artist," says the busy 42-year-old newswoman. After talking with her for a few minutes, I felt exhausted. If Alameda ever needs another power source, the indefatigable KCBS anchor may be it.

**Knock It Off, You Kids:** A reader writes to ask: "Did you catch the screaming match between Bernie 'Jabba The Talk-Show Host' Ward and Brian Copeland on KGO the other night? Unbelievable."

To a talk-radio exec, this is called "good, controversial programming." But the reader says: "They were literally screaming at each other so that neither could be understood."

The topic was apparently whether or not it was appropriate for a parent to demonstrate certain sexual techniques to a child. (Hint: Think former Surgeon General Joycelyn Elders). How charming.

The reader, who sent an irate e-mail to Ward that was never read on the air, adds: "Copeland started screaming and ranting that it was inappropriate, and I guess Bernie

thinks it's OK." Sounds like something Ward would condone, all right.

The KGO listener added, "What may be an appropriate subject for a men's locker room isn't appropriate for radio." This guy must not have listened to much talk radio lately.

San Leandro resident Copeland, a former KTVU morning reporter, is a bit touchy these days, having just endured a bitter divorce. I asked "Copie" about the scream-a-thon, and he replied: "Yeah, it was fun. He's (Bernie's) my friend, but on this he's so (bleeping) wrong."

**Condit Redux:** I got a ton of e-mail this week from readers equally disgusted by U.S. Rep. Gary Condit's behavior and also praising the media's role in keeping the probable murder case alive.

San Leandro reader Earl Cava's response is typical about one new twist: "If Condit lied from the beginning about the affair, why take anything he says now seriously? A polygraph arranged by his attorney? Give me a break."

**Is Laughter The Best Medicine?** Finally, KGO Radio and TV's puckish call-in medic, Dr. Dean Edell, got an e-mail from a listener who says she saw this sign in the window of a local drug store: "Prescriptions Financed."

**E-mail Bill at** newsmann@sonic.net or visit his Bay Area radio-TV news Web site: www.mannaboutsf.com.

# Tucker

FROM PAGE C3

Now, how do you like them apples, all you fans of Leonard Bernstein and Stephen Sondheim?

Kenneth Kelleher, who directed last season's "Macbeth" at Stinson, is at the helm of "Romeo and Juliet."

Performances are at 7 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays and 6 p.m. Sundays through Aug. 26. Shakespeare at Stinson is located only steps away from the surf at Calle Del Mar, Highway 1, Stinson Beach in Marin County. Picnics are encouraged at the outdoor site. The box office opens an hour before curtain to accommodate picnickers. There are heat lamps to take off the chill, but dress warmly.

Tickets for Saturdays and Sundays are \$20 for adults and \$10 for youths 16 and younger. There are special rates for groups of 12 or more. Friday night specials are available throughout the run. Call 415-868-1115 for details.

**SHOTGUN 'LOOTS'** LaVAL'S: Shotgun Players return to the depths of LaVal's Subterranean Theatre, 1834 Euclid Ave., Berkeley, this week with Joe Orton's "Loot."

# Objects

FROM PAGE C3

dust and cobwebs for six months. A sudden flash of light on the Victorian rooftops in her neighborhood led her to transform them into the red, white, and blue house-tops of "Under Destruction," a piece about habitat infringement.

Sometimes only part of the story is visible. When Brown pulled a coffee urn out of a trash can, she envisioned etching the

The depths — metaphorically speaking — are an appropriate level for this rough go, based on the award-winning biography and film "Prick Up Your Ears."

Orton has been described as Oscar Wilde reborn as a 1960s "teddy boy." The disastrous premiere of "Loot" in 1965 left the playwright so distraught that he threatened to abandon the theater permanently. A rousing successful remount in 1966 restored his confidence and made him the toast of London's West End theater scene.

This is hard-edged theater at its most lacerating, slicing and hilariously exposing vice, avarice and savage eroticism.

Reid Davis is directing, with a cast of veteran Shotgun actors, including Andy Alabran, Danny Wolohan, Greg Lucey and Alex Lopez, as well as new faces Renee Penege and Jonathan Gonzalez.

"Loot" previews at 8 p.m. Thursday and Friday, and opens Saturday at the same time. Performances continue at 8 p.m. Thursdays through Saturdays and at 7 p.m. Sundays through Aug. 25. There will be a special performance at 8 p.m. Aug. 20.

Tickets are \$15 general, \$10 for seniors, students and Theater Bay Area members. Call

510-655-0813.

**WELCOME, TRANSPARENT:** A new Bay Area theater company with an interesting focus has announced its inaugural season at its new home, 1901 Ashby Ave., Berkeley.

Transparent Theater aims to create an experience of theater that combines the immediacy of live performance with the lasting effect of a great conversation, according to managing director Coley Lally. The idea is to create a transparent relationship with the audience that encourages continuing discussions from online forums to on-site exchanges of views before and after productions.

The 2001-02 season opens Sept. 22 with August Strindberg's "Svanwhite." Other plays to follow are "Brave Brood" by Robert O'Hara (November/December), "Buying Time" by Michael Weller (February/March 2002), and "What Cats Know" by Lisa Dillman (May/June 2002). Call 510-883-0305.

Send items of interest to Jack Tucker c/o P.O. Box 100, Pinole, CA 94564; fax to 510 262-2776; e-mail to [tucker@ctimes.com](mailto:tucker@ctimes.com); or call 510 262-2768. Include a contact name and number.

surface with stylized Olmec Indian art. As she researched pre-Columbian Mexican Indian art, the Mixtec culture leapt from the pages of dusty archaeology books.

She threw in a little Mayan iconography and some American pop culture to create "Coffee Culture," a piece examining the distance separating the American coffee consumer from the toiling coffee laborer.

Sometimes the story is immediate. For several years, whenever she drove past an aban-

doned car muffler on the highway, Brown thought it would make an interesting vase for a large flower arrangement.

When she decided to portray a close friend using flowers, she knew the time to fund a muffler was at hand.

She constructed "Belis of Ireland" from Guinness beer bottle caps and labels; "Black-eyed Susan's" from golf balls and tees; and sunflowers from pocket watches and feathers. "Flowers for Michael" is about drinking, driving, and timing.

# REVIEW

■ **WHAT:** "America's Sweethearts"

■ **STARRING:** Julia Roberts, John Cusack, Catherine Zeta-Jones, Billy Crystal, Hank Azaria, Stanley Tucci

■ **RATING:** PG-13 (for language and some crude and sexual humor)

■ **RUNNING TIME:** 1 hour, 50 minutes

■ **WHERE:** Opens today at area theaters

■ **GRADE:** B-

1999?


Also bothersome is the fact that he's never sold on the Eddie-Kiki concept. Eddie was nice to her before she was lovely (Roberts does a fat suit and bad makeup for flashbacks and has a nice moment with what looks like a Reese's Peanut Butter Cup), and he barely notices her weight loss. Honorable, but hardly the basis for true love. During one of their carefully metered-out romantic scenes, a dinner at the hotel, they exchange some inane dialogue about the olden days, but Kiki seems more interested in a breadstick than in Eddie. We're meant to see love blossoming, but what you're really thinking is, Lord, if this girl is going to do a Slimfast commercial, she bet-

ter do it fast.

The lack of chemistry between Roberts and Cusack doesn't do anything to counter the script's skimpieness. When they kiss, it's the marriage of mismatched mouths. Roberts' is huge — obviously, even toddlers know this — and Cusack's, while endearing, is tiny and pursed. It's almost as if the camera senses the awkwardness involved, because it skates over the back of one of their heads, shielding us from the sight.

What saves the movie is some (mostly) inspired casting. The major exception is Azaria, who gets a laugh with his first few lines and then pounds them into the ground. The mere idea of Walken as the whacked-out director is splendid, and there's a great joke with him involving the Unabomber's Montana cabin, but his big scene at the end is so poorly written, he can't save it. But it's a treat to see Alan Arkin, all-too-briefly, as Eddie's sly "Wellness Guide." Crystal is at his most appealing and Cusack is all cockeyed charm.

But the real winner here is Zeta-Jones. She's dynamic as the detestable diva, expanding the character she played in "High Fidelity." We've all been programmed to focus on Roberts when she's on-screen, but when the two are up there together, it's Zeta-Jones who draws our eye. She's simply more interesting.




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# Times Book Club

NEXT BOOK  
SELECTION

ump up  
to the table  
for a very  
sty 'Feast'

By Lynn Carey  
TIMES STAFF WRITER

There has been a book that has been so much gushed over as the selection for the Times Book Club. The New York Times calls it "a juicy, laugh-out-loud and completely engrossing" and the Washington Post says it is "a near perfect book, as deep as it is broad in its humanness, and as wise as it is witty." The De-Press Press calls it "A beautiful, bawdy and wondrous celebration on love, on misadventures and the happiness they are set aright."

"The Feast of Love," by Charles Baxter (Knopf, \$13, 320 pages) is a charming and fanciful tale, as he takes a moonlit walk after a storm and is joined on a park by an acquaintance (who turns out to be a main character in the novel). This friend helps him with an idea for a novel, offers him the novel, and offers other people to Baxter to read their stories of love, heartbreak and happily-ever-after.

It sounds like a plan, and is, in fact, an engrossing tale in which the characters intertwine and overlap in their stories of love.



DAVE JOHNSON/TIMES ILLUSTRATION

Book Clubbers caught in a swirl of responses

## A freak of a novel?

By Lynn Carey  
TIMES STAFF WRITER

WITH HIS Tourette-tics and obsessions, was the main character in Jonathan Lethem's "Motherless Brooklyn" irritating or funny? Boring or intriguing? These were some of the questions the Times Book Club discussed at Cody's Books on Fourth Street in Berkeley this month.

"It was very repetitious," complained Diane Mader of Walnut Creek. "I didn't find the plays on words that creative or funny." She thought Lethem was writing in a distant, observing style like Jack Kerouac's or Raymond Chandler's, not involving her in the characters.

Kathleen Johnson of Berkeley agreed — to a point. "It worked for what (Lethem) was trying to do," she said. "The title is 'Motherless Brooklyn.' These guys are all orphans nobody cares about. Frank (their mob-connected boss) keeps everything a secret from them. It's all kind of sketchy."

Jeffrey Black of Berkeley found himself rooting for Lionel Essrog, the self-described "human freakshow." "I was trying to imagine what it must be like to have this syndrome that is essentially uncontrollable. I particularly found some of the scenes with Kimmery very tender. Nobody had ever shown interest in him as a person. I found him so fragile in those scenes."

Black added that he rarely laughs aloud while reading books, but found himself doing so with "Motherless Brooklyn."

"Did you think the relationship with Frank was authentic?" asked Kate Dearborn, of Austin, Texas.

"Frank became his parent, and when he died, Lionel took it upon himself to find out what happened," said Johnson.

Nancy Ward of Pleasant Hill said readers may have expected more out of the group of boys chosen by Frank Minna to help him in his various jobs, but she didn't. "They were orphans, they

It's love for Brooklyn that makes Lethem tick

By Lynn Carey  
TIMES STAFF WRITER

Lionel Essrog — orphan, private eye, self-described human freakshow because of his Tourette's syndrome ("Liable Guesses, Final Escrow, Ironic Pissclaw") — is one of the more unusual (and lovable) heroes to grace the pages of a novel in recent history. Even his creator was affected by him.

"I liked Lionel so much," says Jonathan Lethem, author of "Motherless Brooklyn." "I created a character I was very fond of."

Writing is work, he adds, and there were days he didn't feel like working. "But this was a special experience for me. It wasn't hard to write in the way some others I've written have been."

Lethem, 37, is holed up in Toronto, working on his sixth novel. His wife of one year, independent film producer Julia Rosenberg, is based there, and Lethem finds it easier to work away from his other home in his native Brooklyn, though he divides his time between the two.

It was while he was in the East Bay, however, that he got the idea for "Motherless Brooklyn." He lived here for a decade after college, working in independent bookstores such as Moe's, Pendragon and Pegasus.

"I was pining for New York most of the time I was in California," he says. "Motherless Brooklyn" is a valentine of re-

"I created a character I was very fond of."

— Jonathan Lethem

turning to Brooklyn. I made it necessary to move back. It's full of the affection for Brooklyn I felt upon returning. I had an immense feeling of 'Oh boy, I'm reclaiming where I'm really from.'"

Lethem had seen the 1993 documentary about Tourette's, "Twitch and Shout," which sparked his interest in the condition. He devoured everything he could on the subject, in particular the works of Oliver Sacks.

"I wanted to give people a sense of relating to it, that while reading the book, they might believe themselves to be a candidate to be diagnosed with Tourette's."

Tourette's syndrome is certainly higher up on the scale of public awareness than it used to be, Lethem says. Actress Anne Heche portrayed a character with it on "Ally McBeal" this past season, and Oprah chose a book with a Tourette main character for one of her spring selections.

"I think there are two novels about Tourette's, and that was the other one," Lethem says wryly.

There was a strong bond there."

Dearborn added, "I thought Frank was treating Lionel like a kid brother. He was one of the first people who ... didn't underestimate him."

Tom Mader of Walnut Creek didn't find Lionel convincing. "Here was this orphan with Tourette's syndrome, and he seemed to overcome all of this, to transcend all of this. Why? On what basis?"



Jonathan Lethem

"Motherless Brooklyn" won the 1999 National Book Critics Circle Award for Fiction. It's been praised not only for his careful drawing of characters, including the gangsters that figure prominently in this murder mystery, but also for its loving portrayal of Brooklyn.

"I tried to capture the energy of Brooklyn street life," Lethem says. "The neighborhood characters are very romantic in my memory. From an adult perspective, they might be more ambiguous or sad, but I didn't want to be cynical. I wanted to capture the innocent enjoyability."

Lethem's father is an artist; his mother was a social worker until she died, when Lethem was 14. By the time he was 15, he knew very clearly that his future was in the written word.

"You think having Tourette's would stop him with everything in life, and it didn't," said Ward. Catherine Kuss of Oakland said she reads for plot and color. "I loved his obsessions. They were a riot. The turkey sandwich, the way he sliced it ..."

"Would there have been a story without Tourette's?" asked Pat Malone of Pleasant Hill. "It was annoying at first, then I got past it."

"I found it fascinating," said

"I spent that summer writing a novel. I've still got it. I keep it hidden. I don't want anyone else to see it, though I'm sure they'd be sympathetic. It reflects my capabilities at 15 very well!"

Lethem's next book is also about Brooklyn, and he said that being in Toronto is adding extra layers of emotion to his portrayal of the borough. But the second half of the novel will take place in California.

"It's made me realize how much I've been missing it lately," he says. "I get terribly sentimental ... I used to play softball with the people from Cody's ..."

The next novel — due to editors by mid-2002 — is bigger than any of his previous novels, which include "Gun, With Occasional Music" and "Amnesia Moon." Its foundation is his own memories of growing up in Brooklyn in the 1970s and '80s, but it's peppered with an assortment of cultural workers, including a filmmaker, a soul singer and a rock critic.

Because of his deadline, Lethem isn't planning any vacations anytime soon, but said he toured Italy when the translation for "Motherless Brooklyn" was published there (it's been published in almost a dozen languages). They had trouble with translating the title, he says. Ultimately, the direct translation is "Crazy Head."

Dorette Fisher of Richmond.

"I don't see that it contributed anything," countered Tom Mader.

"But that's why he wasn't taken seriously by the others, and that set him up to where he could be the instrument to solve the mystery," said Puria.

Lynn Carey runs the Times Book Club. She can be reached at 925-943-8112 or at lcarey@ctimes.com.

EXCERPT FROM "THE FEAST OF LOVE," BY CHARLES BAXTER

man — me, this pale has an eerie unwell glow. None of these previously familiar objects have any familiarity now. What's worse, I cannot remember or recognize myself. I sit up in bed — actually, I lurched in mild sleep terror toward the vertical. There's a demon here, one of the unnamed ones, the demon of erasure and forget-

ting. I can't manage my way through this feeling because my mind isn't working, and because it, the flesh in which I'm housed, hasn't yet become me.

Looking into the darkness, I have optical floaters; there, on the opposite wall, are gears turning separately and then moving closer to one another until their cogs start to

mesh and rotate in unison.

Then I feel her hand on my back. She's accustomed by now to my night amnesias, and with what has become an almost automatic response, she reaches up sleepily from her side of the bed and touches me between the shoulder blades. In this manner the world's objects slip back into their fixed positions.

"Charlie," she says. Although I have not recognized myself, apparently I recognize her: her hand, her voice, even the slight saltine-cracker scent of her body as it rises out of sleep. I turn toward her and hold her in my arms, trying to get my heart rate under control. She puts her hand to my chest. "You've been dreaming," she says.

"It's only a bad dream." Then she says, half-asleep again, "You have bad dreams," she yawns, "because you don't ..." Before she can finish the sentence, she descends back into sleep.

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## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Submissions to the Community Calendar must be received Thursdays one week prior to publication. Listings are on a space-available basis.

## Children

**Check out books from the Berkeley Richmond Jewish Community Center Library.** Spend quality time with your kids, meet with the children's librarian, research your Jewish roots or check out best sellers. The library is located at 1414 Walnut St. Hours: 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Tuesdays. For more information, call 848-0237.

**Hall of Health, 2230 Shattuck Ave.,** a health exhibit museum of Children's Hospital Oakland, presents free puppet shows: 1:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. The Kids on the Block, the award-winning educational puppet troupe, features puppets with such conditions as cerebral palsy, blindness and Down syndrome. The Hall of Health is a hands-on community, health-education museum and science center sponsored by Children's Hospital Oakland and Alta Bates Medical Center. Hours: Tuesday to Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission is free. For more information, call 549-9682.

The City of El Cerrito, offers special

programs for children from 22 months to five years of age. These programs are designed to offer parents an opportunity to leave their pre-school children in a safe atmosphere under qualified supervision. The program for ages 22 months to 3-1/2 years meets Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to noon. Registration is continuous as long as space is available. Located at 7007 Mooser Lane. For more information, call Judie, 215-4371.

**LGBTQ Parent and Prospective Parent Groups** meet the first Saturday of the month 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. with concurrent childcare. All groups meet at the Pacific Center at 2712 Telegraph Ave. in Berkeley. Donations are requested, but not required. For information or to RSVP, contact Anna at familyprogram@yahoo.com or 415-789-8560 classes.

**The Ann Martin Children's Center** offers eight "Support Groups For Mothers," sessions for first time mothers and babies their babies under 5 months. Experienced facilitator. For information: 524-0821.

**Lawrence Hall of Science, UC Berkeley's** public science museum and center for K-12 science and math education offers three residential summer science camps, including two camps

held at actual University of California field research stations; and three Sierra backpacking summer science camps. Each camp emphasizes fun outdoor science explorations through hands-on, inquiry-based activities, as well as lots of traditional camp fun. Each camp has a unique theme, and is designed for a specific age group. Call 642-2275 or e-mail to: lthinfo@uclink.berkeley.edu. To register, call 642-5134.

**"Theater Rats,"** Julia Morgan's kid's theater camp program, offers swimming, singing, dancing, acting, and field games as some of its exciting activities. The camp is a two-week session for kids 6-14. Call 883-7023 for additional information.

## Health

**Charcot Marie Tooth (CMT)** support group meets Saturdays bimonthly at West Berkeley Library, 1125 University Ave. from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. CMT is a neuropathic disorder. Call 524-3506 for additional information.

**YWCA Health and Community Education;** drop in classes in dance, fitness, yoga, martial arts and more; University YWCA, 2600 Bancroft Way; 848-6370; \$8 - \$10.

## Community

**Union Street Glass** presents a glass-blowing demonstration 11 a.m. to noon Saturday, July 21 at 833 South 19th St., Richmond. Gallery hours: 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. For more information, call 888-451-7752.

**Dog and puppy temporary foster homes** urgently needed. Shelters overcrowded, situation desperate. Call Hopalong Animal Rescue today, 530-5154.

**Turning Point at the YWCA, 2600 Bancroft Way,** sponsors Resume Clinics on Tuesday afternoons, or by appointment. To sign up for an appointment, leave a message several days before you would like to meet. Anne Levine Ph.D. has a background in Design and Education. For the past 10 years, she has assisted in producing numerous resumes as part of her desktop publishing business. Call 848-6370 for additional information.

**Marion Rosen,** founder of Rosen Method bodywork and movement, presents the Method through lecture, demonstration, and experimental practice. Rosen is joined in the presentation by Sara Webb, Senior Teacher of Rosen Method bodywork. Location: Feldenkrais Resources, 830 Bancroft Way. Admission: \$10. Reservations are strongly recommended.

For more information or to make a reservation, contact Abby Paige, at 845-6606

**Berkeley's Office of Emergency Services** presents a new series of free Community Emergency Response Training (CERT) classes. The classes give basic, practical information, including hands-on training in fire suppression, light search and rescue, and disaster first aid. All classes are held at the fire department's Emergency Operations Center, 997 Cedar St. The classes are open to everyone, 18 or older, who lives or works in Berkeley. To register, or for more information, call the Office of Emergency Services, 644-8736.

**Berkeley Art Museum, Pacific Film Archive** offers a guided tour of Equal Partner: Men and Women Principals in Contemporary Architectural Practice presented by graduate students from the UC-Berkeley Department of Architecture, College of Environmental Design on Alternating Thursdays at 12:15 p.m. and on Sundays at 2 p.m. For additional information call 642-0808

**Overeaters Anonymous** meet Fridays at 1:30 PM at the Northbrae Community Church in Berkeley, 941 The

A Berkeley-based group of people who say what you mean. Come join us Tuesday, noon to 1 p.m. at The Ave. Call 883-6708 for additional information

**Toastmasters,** do it now. Share what you mean. Come join us Tuesday, noon to 1 p.m. at The Ave. Call 883-6708 for additional information

**Civil Rights** activists needed. ACLU chapter of Berkeley, Oakland, and Kensington. Call 848-6370

**'Work Buddies'** help you find a job. Call 848-6370

**Psychic Healing Clinic** 7 to 9 p.m. Mondays free clinic at the Altman for Psychic Studies in Berkeley. Cleansing, stress relief 1-400-9355


**SMART project:** the Alameda Group in Berkeley is conducting study to compare the cost and

See CALENDAR, Page 10

# SENIOR Living

## Elders Inn on Webster brings senior residence close to community services

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Lic #15600445

The new 52 unit Elders Inn on Webster, a new design concept for assisted living, has just received a first place award for design from the Assisted Living, Federation of America (ALFA), the national organization of assisted living facilities for the elderly. By building several clusters or "neighborhoods" of about 15 to 20 resident rooms around ample communal areas, the facility can deliver the variety and depth of service of a large facility and still maintain a more intimate living experience.

Located in the commercial section of Alameda's Webster Street, the building allows easy access to local services and attraction for the residents and their visiting families. The facility is an urban infill design which allows it to blend in with the local commercial area and still offer the residents a spacious interior and series of sheltered courtyard. Although you would never know it by looking at the interior, even wheelchairs can easily navigate the abundantly lit hallways and rooms.

Assisted living is a new concept in delivery of elderly services. Although it can sometimes be an alternative for short or long term nursing home care, it is primarily utilized as a barrier free residence that provides services of a residential hotel with added health care services, if needed. Included in its monthly price are a full meal program, housekeeping, laundry, utilities, a 24 hour attendant and security staff, a driving service to doctors visits, a varied social/recreational program and professional nursing supervision of health conditions.

Designed and operated by the Zimmerman

Family who operates two other facilities in Alameda (Waters Edge Lodge and Waters Edge Nursing Facility) Together with Elders Inn, These three facilities deliver a full spectrum of senior services. Tours are best done by appointment by calling 521-9200. But if you are in the area they would be glad to show you their new facility, Elder Inn at 1725 Webster St. in Alameda

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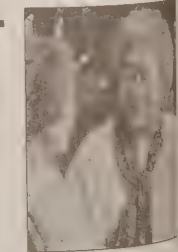
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**Calendar**

**26 through Aug. 24.** The exhibition features 2000/2001 Fellowship winners. Reception 6-8 p.m., Thursday, July 26. Gallery hours: Tuesday-Friday, Noon-5 p.m. or by appointment. Fellowship winners include Samuel Chapin Brown, Sandra Gibson, Pakamas Suwannipa and Lee Walton. For more information, call Lauren Davies, program manager at 549-2977.

**Berkeley Arts Festival Gallery, 2200 Shattuck Ave.,** continues its exhibition of paintings and carvings through Sunday July 22. Gallery hours: Thursday through Sunday noon to 8 p.m. For more information, call 486-0411.

**The Women's Cancer Resource Center, 3023 Shattuck Ave.,** features "Sistahs: Ethnographic Ceramics," the creative works of Renata Gray, from July 18 through Aug. 22. Gray's artwork revolves around African patterns and designs. Her images are based on relationships and pays homage to women, men, and children. The opening reception is 1-3 p.m. Sunday, July 29. Gallery hours are 1-7 p.m. Tuesdays through Thursdays and noon to 4 p.m. Saturday, and by appointment. The gallery is wheelchair accessible. For more information, call 548-9272.

**Gallery ACCI** continues "Dream Language," an exhibition of abstract art, through Aug. 4. The exhibit features the work of Sidney Ferrel, fiber, Van-

nie Keightley, prints; Naomi Polioff, prints; William Shinn, sculpture and Peggy Vandell, painting. Call 843-2527 for gallery hours or more information.

**The UC Berkeley YWCA, 2600 Bancroft Way,** continues the exhibition of Sebastopol artist, Mary Black through Sept. 28. The exhibit is available for viewing Monday through Friday, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Black uses the ancient method of encaustic painting in which layers of wax and pigment are heated and fused. For more information, call 707-823-5261.

**Berkeley Richmond Jewish Community Center, 1414 Walnut St.,** continues its "Berkeley Today," Sunday brunch, lecture and discussion series. The next session is 10:30 a.m. to 12 noon Sunday July 22. The Honorable Mayor of Berkeley Shirley Dean addresses such diverse and complicated issues as parking in Berkeley, West Berkeley development and the link between domestic violence and youth violence. Admission including brunch is \$4 BR-JCC members, \$5 public. For more information, call 849-0237.

**ACCI Gallery, 1652 Shattuck Ave.,** presents two emerging artists: Christa Assad and Hee-jung Kim through Aug. 15. Christa Assad's high-fire ceramics are inspired by 1950's product, modern architectural and interior design, but have a uniquely contempo-

rary look. Hee-jung Kim's black and white photography explore subjects from Home Depot, products to the body to urban space in a shadowy, dreamlike style. Gallery hours: Monday through Thursday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Closed Sunday. For more information, call Mia Capodilupo at 843-2527.

**The Fig Tree Gallery, 2599 Eighth St.,** presents an exhibit of paintings, drawings, sculpture and mixed media by East Bay artists through July 29. Gallery hours: Saturdays and Sundays 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information, call the gallery at 540-7843 or contact Suzanne at 531-4545.

**The Richmond Museum of History** continues exhibits highlighting Richmond's agricultural beginnings, industrial achievements, and homefront contributions during WWII. Special exhibits and events are held throughout the year. The museum is located in the historic 1910 Carnegie Library in the Old Downtown area at the corner of 4th Street and Nevin Ave. Call 235-7387 for more information or to arrange tours.

**The Albany Arts Committee** continues its new exhibition of acrylic paintings by John Dawson, "Call Flora & Fauna," through Aug. 23 at the Albany Community Center Foyer Gallery.

**1249 Marin Ave. Gallery hours:** Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is free. For more information, call 528-0883.

**The City of El Cerrito** presents Open Clay Studio ongoing classes on Mondays, 7-9 p.m. Experience with clay is helpful, but not necessary. Opportunities will be provided for students to explore areas of clay work. Demonstrations and instruction will be provided on request. Admission: \$7.50 residents, \$9.38 nonresidents. The location: Tassajara Pottery Center, 2575 Tassajara Boulevard. For more information, call Judie at 215-4371.

**Alta Bates Medical Center** presents work by members of the California Watercolor Association at its Community Art Gallery, 2450 Ashby Ave., Berkeley. The gallery is in the main corridor to the left of the information desk and main entrance. Call 204-4444 for additional information.

**New Pieces Gallery** is located on Solano Avenue. New Pieces is the only gallery which shows quilts and soft cloth sculptures and dolls exclusively. The gallery is open during store business hours: Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Sunday Noon to 5 p.m., except major holidays. Details: 527-6779.

**Literary Events**

**The Berkeley Art Center Association (BACA)** presents its 18th Annual National Juned Exhibition "Works on Paper" opening Sunday, July 22 and continuing through Aug. 31 at the Berkeley Art Center, 1275 Walnut St. In Live Oak Park. Gallery hours: Noon to 5 p.m. Wednesday-Sunday. A reception is from 2 to 4 p.m. Sunday, July 22. The free exhibit features 33 artists from across the US, including 17 Bay Area representatives selected by Rupert Jenkin of the San Francisco Art Commission Gallery. For more information, call 844-0893.

**The Reading Edge** is available for public use at the Berkeley Public Library 2121 Alston Way. This computer scans printed text and reads it back aloud with a synthesized voice. It's available for anyone with a disability that requires its use to access print material. Users must complete a brief training session before using the Reading Edge; after that, reservations are needed. Call the Reference Desk at 844-6648 to set up a training session.

**Meetings**

**Berkeley Camera Club** meets Tuesday, July 24, 7-9 p.m. at the Berkeley Public Library, 2121 Alston Way. For more information, call 844-0893.

See CALENDAR, Page C10

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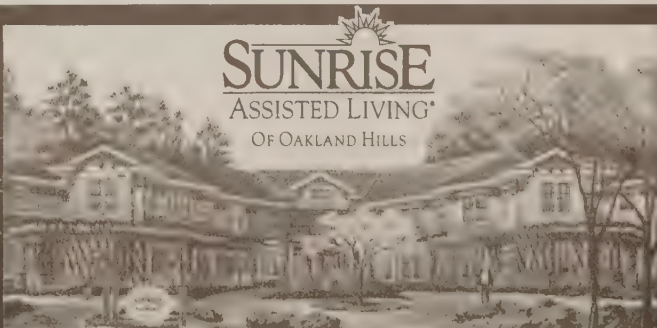
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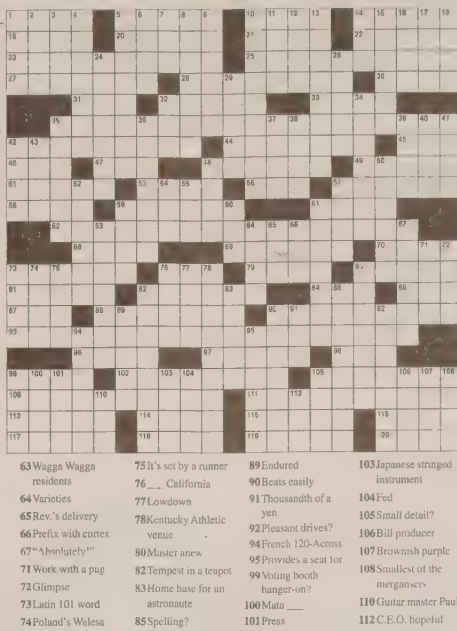


## NEW YORK TIMES MAGAZINE CROSSWORD PUZZLE

## TIMELY OBSERVATION

By ELIZABETH C. GORSKI / Edited by WILL SHORTZ

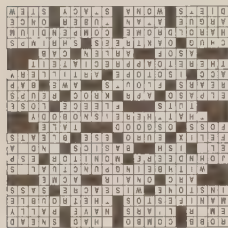
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## Calendar

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days at 7:30 p.m. at the Northbrae Community Church, 941 The Alameda. Share your slides and prints and learn what other photographers are doing. Monthly field trips. For



more information, call Don at 525-3565.

**NAMI-East Bay** holds its next "Speaker Meeting," at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, July 25 at University Christian Church, 2401 Le Conte at Scenic Ave. Special Needs Trusts are the topic for this month's meeting. Baron Miller, attorney, has specialized in estate planning for families with mentally ill relatives for the past 10 years. Miller will answer questions and concerns about special needs trusts. For more information, call 841-8361.

**Kensington Senior Activity Center** meets from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Arlington Community Church, 52 Arlington Ave. The West Contra Costa Adult school and community volunteers present the Center's program of life-long learning. Attend any class or event. Everyone over 55 is welcome. Volunteers of all ages are needed. Call 526-9146 or 547-1969 for more information.

**Disabled American Veterans Chapter**

25 meets on the third Tuesday of the month. The evening begins with a no host dinner and fellowship at 7 p.m. at 2068 Center St. A short business meeting follows at 8 p.m. at 1831 Center St., the Veterans Memorial Building. Price: \$3. Women who have had relatives in the US Military are invited to attend and join the auxiliary. For more information, call R. DeRiti, Cmdr. D.A.V. Chapter 25, 916-372-8364.

The **YWCA** offers free orientations of its Turning Point Career Center. The orientations outline the resources available to the public and the great variety of workshops held every Tuesday, 1:30 p.m. The Turning Point Career Center is located at 2600 Bancroft Way. For more information, call 848-6370.

The **Berkeley Avatar Metaphysics** Toastmasters Club meet on the first and third Thursdays, from 6:15 to 7:30 p.m., at 2515 Hillegass Ave. Public speaking skills and metaphysics come together. For more information,

call 869-2547 or 643-7645.

**Berkeley Toastmasters Club** meet monthly, on the first and third Thursdays at 2515 Hillegass Ave. The group specializes in developing its communication and public speaking skills in the field of metaphysics. The group also learn from each other through short speeches. Call Odette Larde at 869-2547 or 643-7645.

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The **Kensington Senior Activity Center** meets on Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Arlington Community Church, 52 Arlington Ave. The center's community program of life-long learning is presented by the West Contra Costa Adult School. Attend any class or event you choose. Everyone over 55 is welcome. Call 526-9146 or 547-1969 for additional information.

The **YWCA** offers free orientations every Tuesday at 1:30 p.m. of its Turning Point Career Center, 2600 Bancroft Way. The orientations outline the center's resources and the variety of workshops it offers to the public. For additional information, call 848-6370.

## Lecture/Workshop

The **Alameda County Home Composting Program** offers a free worm compost workshop 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, July 21 at the Magic Gardens in Berkeley, rain or shine. Learn how to recycle food and vegetable scraps. For more information and workshop directions, call the Hotline at 444-SOIL.

**Alta Bates Summit Medical Center**, 2450 Ashby Ave., presents "Curious About Plastic Surgery?," a free lecture, from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. Monday, July 23. For more information or to make a reservation, contact Ellen Carroll at 869-6737.

## Theater, Dance &amp; Film

**Women's Will**, an all-female Shakespeare Company presents "Comedy of Errors," at 1 p.m. Saturday, Sunday July 21 and 22 at Live Oak Park. For directions or more information, call 415-567-1758 or go to www.womanswill.org.

**Shotgun Players**, presents Joe Orton's comedy "Loot," opening 8 p.m. July 21 through Aug. 26 at LaVal's Subterranean Theatre, 1834 Euclid Ave. The play directed by Reid Davis, features Andy Habran, Jonathan Gonzalez,

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## Dining &amp; Entertainment

## Is Your Picnic Basket Safe?

Most Americans believe there's an increased threat of foodborne illness - commonly called food poisoning - during the hot summer months, according to a national survey released by The American Dietetic Association (ADA) and its foundation and the ConAgra Foundation.

And they're right. Reported incidences of the most common foodborne illnesses do increase during May through September. What's more, the home is one of the most common places for foodborne illness to occur, with reported in-home cases rising by 25 percent over the past five years.

In response, the Chicago-based ADA and its foundation, along with the ConAgra Foundation, have joined together for a three-year national public awareness campaign called "Home Food Safety...It's In Your Hands." The goal is to raise consumer awareness that home food safety is a serious problem and provide solutions so Americans can easily and safely handle food in their own kitchens.

## Failing Summer School

Although the national survey revealed that nine in 10 consumers give themselves a passing grade on the summertime food safety quiz, most would flunk at least on critical food safety measure. For instance, almost 80 percent of consumers do not consistently use a meat thermometer to check the doneness of meats or poultry, despite the fact that cooking meats to improper temperatures is one of the leading causes of foodborne illness. During the summer, hamburgers and barbecued chicken are two of the most popular grilling foods across America, signaling the perfect time to reinforce safe food-handling practices.

Health professionals, food industry experts and government agencies say you should follow four food handling practices including: 1) Wash hands often; 2) Keep raw meats and ready-to-eat foods separate; 3) Cook to proper temperatures 4) Refrigerate promptly below 40 degrees Fahrenheit.

"We want these four easy actions to become second nature in the kitchen or at the grill. When you get into a car you automatically think to strap on a seat belt; in turn, we want Americans to always use a meat thermometer and wash their hands more often," said Hordiak, an ADA Home food safety expert and the national spokesperson for the ADA/ConAgra education campaign. "Doing so should significantly prevent the likelihood of foodborne illness."

Nearly nine out of 10 Americans believe more education is needed about food safety preparation and handling in their kitchens in order to prevent food-related illness. When respondents were asked to describe what prevents them from doing a better job, nearly 40 percent said that time hampered them from following the "best" food safety guidelines. Approximately three in 10 people admitted that they just didn't know about home food safety or know where to find accurate information.

## Catch the Summer Bug?

Mishandling of food is the leading cause of food related sickness. Very often foodborne illness - with symptoms like headaches, muscle aches, exhaustion, diarrhea, dizziness or vomiting - is misdiagnosed as the 24-hour flu. In the survey, nearly six in 10 consumers did not associate flu-like symptoms during warm weather with the possibility of foodborne illness.

To find out more about home food safety, call ADA's Consumer Nutrition Hotline at 1-800-366-1655, recorded messages are available 24 hours a day. To receive a free brochure, send a self-addressed, business-sized envelope with two stamps to the American Dietetic Association, NCND-Home Food Safety Brochure, 216 W. Jackson Blvd., Chicago, IL 60606. In the fall, consumers can also visit foodsafty.org, which will provide practical home food safety tips.

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# Auto Plus

Auto Plus is a supplement to The Montclairian, The Piedmonter, The Berkeley Voice, The Journal, The Alameda Journal

Friday, July 20, 2001

Section D

## Classic Classics 1949 Ford flathead V-8 delivery sedan [D3]

ERIC TUROWSKI  
My First Car

### The Os-Car

is the last Auto Plus section  
so I thought it appropriate  
as well as ironic) to tell the story  
of my first car.

was the late '80s. I was a stu-  
dent and working full time at night  
as a security guard in one of the  
Permanent buildings in  
Oakland. At night, you  
could see a lot of people in office  
buildings, but one man I struck up  
a friendship with was Oscar John-  
son, the chief janitor. Well past re-  
tirement age, and with glasses that  
perched his eyes to at least twice  
his actual size, somehow this el-  
derly black gentleman reminded me  
of my grandmother. Don't ask me  
why, but it was his friendliness,  
the aura of a lifetime of hard work  
and etched his features.

He listened to the A's on the ra-  
dio during breaks. Our  
were lonely ones — mine in  
the boiler room, his with a staff  
spoke only Spanish. It felt  
like communicating with a hu-  
man after hours. It seemed  
after six, they rolled up streets  
and all the doors downtown.  
He approached retirement,  
and wanted a new vehicle. He  
was the second owner of a 1968  
Le Sabre (only two years  
older than myself). He didn't  
want to last him through his  
leisure. Kaiser at that time  
was in the process of buying a new  
company cars, and offered  
on the old ones to employ-  
ees. Oscar went for it, purchasing  
a car two decades younger than  
the one he was driving.



MAZDA'S PROTEGÉ is sporty and stylish yet it leans toward the station wagon direction.

## Mazda Protegé a big improvement over predecessors

The 2002 Mazda Protegé lives up to its name. This all-new sports wagon is the beneficiary of earlier models dating back to 1977.

The original version was called the GLC, initials Mazda derived from a "Great Little Car." That vehicle was a three-door hatchback. In 1981, Mazda introduced another GLC, its first front-wheel-drive car. Then in 1986, the GLC gave way to the 323, which was also an entry-level car. In keeping with the birthright thing, Mazda called the 1990 sedan model the Protegé. That vehicle was upgraded in 1995 and again in

1999, with each new model utiliz-  
ing the best components of its pre-  
decessors.

Unlike its ancestry, the sports wagon is exceptionally distinctive in design. The new 2002 Protegé is much too sporty and stylish to be called a station wagon, yet it leans in that direction. This vehicle seats five people and is equipped with many components for a lively performance with respectable handling. It should attract a youthful market, because of both appearance and price.

I drove the five-speed manual

**TOM KEANE**  
Keane on Wheels

and automatic transmission Protegé vehicles and favored the automatic, which is an \$800 option. The base price is \$16,335.

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anyone who wants to grab atten-  
tion. They set off the unique design  
and exterior color. I drove one that  
was painted a vivid yellow, com-  
plemented by a monotone black in-  
terior embellished with what ap-  
peared to be a brushed aluminum  
trim. The combination had great eye  
appeal. There are five other exte-  
rior colors to choose from but all in-  
teriors are black.

Mazda calls its exterior a "Con-  
trast in Harmony" and boasts of a

five-point grille that features two  
headlamps, two fog lamps and a  
large Mazda emblem. The roof has  
a rack, plus a short antenna capa-  
ble of pulling in distant radio sta-  
tions. The rear has a large hatch,  
typical of most station wagon open-  
ings. Above the hatch is a rear air  
dam, adding to the vehicle's sporti-  
ness.

The interior was very inviting and  
I couldn't wait to get my hands on  
the three-spoke, leather-wrapped  
tilt steering wheel. The instruments

See KEANE, Page D3

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**\$3000 Delivers**

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## First

FROM PAGE D1

To this day, I don't know why, but Oscar gave me his old Le Sabre. I guess he just decided I needed a car.

A '68 Le Sabre is a beast of a vehicle. One of the largest models ever built (second to that really enormous Electra, I'm sure, and Cadillac probably built a bigger car, and maybe there was a bigger Chevy Impala), it stood over 4½ feet tall, 6½ feet wide, and 18 feet long.

I had learned to drive in a Honda Civic. Two doors, four cylinders, hatchback — you get the picture. Now, I was behind the wheel of a 230 horsepower 350-cubic-inch V-8 monster, the weight of which was easily measured in tons.

Sure, the power steering let you drive with one finger, and the power brakes could stop on a dime (and the first time I tapped the pedal, the beast screeched and jerked to an instant, tire-smoking stop), but 18 feet? There wasn't a room in my apartment 18 feet long.

You had to pump the gas pedal 15 times before firing up the engine. Whether this was common with ancient Buicks, or if something was wrong with the fuel pump, I don't remember.

The first time I tried, it didn't work — didn't work at 1 a.m., long past the time the last buses stopped. Oscar pointed out that the problem was that I was pumping the brake 15 times.

"Didn't you see all the red light?" he asked, referring to the small dark space flooded with scarlet brilliance every time I "pumped."

Once started, the car had to warm up "a while," a while meaning half an hour.

The wheeled land yacht floated on independent ball-joint front suspension, which almost led to my demise (although I'm sure the car would have survived). Oscar warned me that the ball-joints were worn out, and they needed replacing.

Not knowing what ball-joints were at the time, I zipped around downtown to the 580 on-ramp. Ball-joints, I found out, were the things that kept the tires sort of pointing in the same direction. I hit a small pot hole, and suddenly, the tires sort of . . . wandered.

The front end bucked like an extremely unhappy animal. I took my foot off the gas, and jammed it on the brake.

Except I didn't. I took my foot off the gas and jammed on the gas. Automatic SuperTurbine trans-

mission kicked into gear sending the car from 30 to 60 in about a millisecond. Every car on the highway decided on a lane other than mine. The beast gave a heave into the left lane, and a heave toward the guardrail, and then settled down.

"Oh, yes," Oscar said the next day, "you get it up to 55, the problem goes away."

I found alternative routes to work.

But the Le Sabre had problems other than just "bad knees." It could have been my pumping the wrong pedal to start it all the time, but before too long, it didn't want to start at all.

My friend Ed came to give me a jump one day. He parked his '73 Gran Torino station wagon facing my car. He looked at them both.

"The Os-Car could eat my wagon," he said after a few moments' contemplation.

True enough, if the cars were fish, my car was taller, wider and longer than a Ford station wagon. The big burn/rust spot on the hood made it look meaner.

"Os-Car?" I said. The name stuck.

For a year, the Os-Car and I crept along back streets at night, waiting for a hidden chuckhole to send the front end bucking. I once crashed into one of the pillars of the Kaiser parking garage. Though I barely tapped it, all the attendants came running. They thought there had been an explosion, or an earthquake. Since the impact didn't even leave a scratch on Os-Car's front bumper, I played dumb (especially as I carried no insurance).

Os-Car was a lot to handle. I once had to leave it in a KFC parking lot. When I pulled in, there was an empty spot next to Os-Car. But when that adjacent space was filled, there wasn't enough room to back up and swing out of the space. Not without backing into the restaurant. Experience told me that if I backed Os-Car into something, regardless of the impact I personally felt, the damage could be measured seismically.

My neighbors must not have liked seeing Os-Car parked anywhere near their houses. Maybe it was the fumes from letting it warm up for 30 minutes. Maybe it was the roar at 1:30 a.m. Or the way one tire was flush against the curb, and the other one pointed into the street. Who can say?

On a Monday morning I ran out of the house late to work one day to find Os-Car no longer parked across the street.

I ran over the hill to see if I'd forgotten, and parked it down the street. Other than a large oil stain,

Now, I was behind the wheel of a 230 horsepower 350-cubic-inch V-8 monster, the weight of which was easily measured in tons.

there was no sign of Os-Car.

Immediately, I called the cops. "My car's been stolen!" I said to the dispatcher.

"License number?" she asked coolly.

I gave it to her, as well as my address.

"Sir, your car has been towed." "But street sweeping isn't until next Wednesday," I said.

"Someone in the neighborhood reported it as an abandoned vehicle."

"Friday night to Monday morning is abandoned?"

"It's impounded in the [name deleted] Brother's lot. There's a \$45 fee, plus a daily impounding fee."

Os-Car! My faithful steed, imprisoned! I wanted to run (I couldn't very well drive) down to [name deleted] Brother's towing lot and spring my vehicle.

But I had to face a few depressing facts. Os-Car was an uninsured steed. I didn't have \$75 to fix the ball-joints, let alone the towing and impounding fees.

My first car had been kidnapped from in front of my house, to be eventually sold for scrap, and there was nothing I could do about it.

Oscar Johnson retired a few weeks later. If you're still out there, Oscar, I never understood your act of kindness, but I thank you for giving me a year of freedom. The kind of freedom you only feel once, when you own your first car.

(In spite of my continuing anger of the past 12 years, I decided graciously not to include the name of the towing company that kidnapped my car. I still think they're jerks.)

If you have a story about your first, or your favorite car, please contact Dennis Evanovsky at 510-748-1655 or e-mail devanovsky@cc-times.com.

If you have photos available, please ask about specifications for photo submissions or e-mail submissions.

Eric Turowski has had a good time editing Auto Plus for the past 14 months. He lives in Oakland.

## SPARE PARTS

**HEAD RESTRAINT:** Saab was the recipient of the 2001 Safety Achievement Award at the World Safety Symposium for its innovative system designed to protect front seat occupants against whiplash-related injuries resulting from rear-end collisions. The Symposium was formed to address the growing concern over traffic injuries and fatalities on roadways by bringing auto manufacturers, public and private organizations, and media together to share innovative ways to make automobile travel safer.

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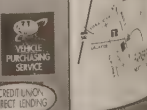
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**Wolfsburg**

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## Drag on accessories indicates battery problem

Dear Doctor: I own a 2000 Mitsubishi Galant sedan with a four-cylinder engine and automatic transmission. My concern is the wiper blades move very slowly, even in the fast position when the radio, defroster and wipers are on at the same time. I've had the battery replaced, but I still have the same problem. What is going on? Jennifer

Dear Jennifer: It sounds like the alternator is not charging at the proper rate. When you have all accessories on and there is a noticeable difference in the performance of either the wipers or directional signals, there is a battery or alternator problem. Have an independent shop or major retailer that specializes in automotive electrical work check the total volt and amp output, and run a battery test. In some vehicles, the alternator pulley may need to be downsized to spin faster at low engine speeds, thereby increasing both voltage and amper-

age output at idle.

Dear Doctor: I live in Canada and am interested in a new Honda Odyssey minivan. What is your opinion of this van? I would also like your opinion on platinum-type gas saving devices. Do they work? Henry

Dear Henry: The 2001 Odyssey with the 3.5-liter V-6 210-horsepower engine is one of the best I have driven. If you have the need for a navigation system, step up to the EX-NAVI model. The third-row flat-folding seat, along with the dual sliding doors, makes this minivan very versatile. As for the gas-saving device you mention, save your money for home heating oil. As I have mentioned many times in the past, synthetic oil will usually increase fuel mileage 1 mpg. I would recommend its use, especially during your cold winter months.

Dear Doctor: In June 1999, I purchased a 1993 Toyota Camry four-cylinder with 86,000 miles. Here are

**JUNIOR DAMATO**  
Ask the Auto Doctor

my concerns: 1) a vibration at idle in gear; 2) a loss of power and more noticeable vibration after the timing belt was replaced; 3) oil leaking between the cylinder head and block. Two mechanics said the vibration and leaks are common on older Camrys. The mechanics also said if I start to fix the oil leaks, more problems will appear. Should I go back to an American car? James

Dear James: A small vibration is normal in some four-cylinder engines with the automatic transmission in gear, especially with the air conditioning operating.

I am sure the engine mounts, belts and exhaust are tight. Sometimes an increase in engine idle

See DOCTOR, Page D5


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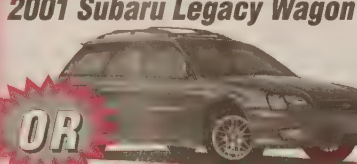
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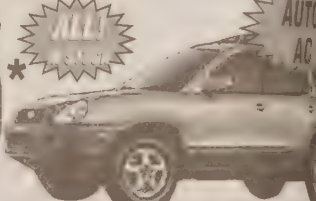
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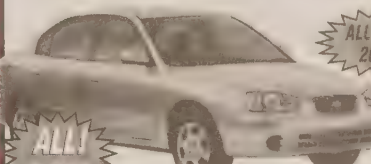
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# Doctor

PAGE 04

will lessen the vibration. You experienced a loss of power and a noticeable vibration after the timing belt installation. This information tells me that the cam shaft timing is incorrect. For the oil leaking between the head and block, this is a very common problem on older Camaros. As for more problems after the timing belt is replaced, oil consumption and smoke emitting from the tailpipe are possible.

Should you buy American? Test drive any car that suits you and fits your needs.

If you buy a used car, select one with low mileage and have it inspected out by an independent mechanic before you buy it.

Dear Doctor: I am interested in purchasing a new Corvette Z06. Could I buy a 2001 385-horsepower for a savings of \$2,000, or the 2002 405-horsepower?

Dear Russ: With the 2001 Corvette Z06 priced at \$50,000, the \$2,000 savings is a drop in the bucket, not to mention that the 2001 model is now a year old with \$5,000 depreciation. I think this is a no-brainer. The 2002 is the only way to go, even if the price difference is \$3,000. By the way, some

2001 Z06 models had oil consumption issues.

Dear Doctor: I own a 1997 Ford Ranger 4x4 pickup with the 4.0-liter V-6 engine and automatic transmission. The odometer has 25,000 miles. My complaint is poor gas mileage; the truck is averaging only 10 mpg. The owner's manual estimates 16 mpg in the city, 20 mpg on the highway. The only problem I have had was a bad O<sub>2</sub> sensor, thermostat and computer reprogram. The truck has plenty of power and seems to run fine, except for poor gas mileage. Glenn

Dear Glen: Alldata lists technical service bulletin #99-26-9 referring to fuel economy issues, such as consumer expectations verses actual usage.

But remember, estimated fuel mileage figures that are reported on the window sticker are exactly what it says: "Estimated," under controlled testing conditions.

As for your specific fuel mileage concerns, if the engine were burning an abnormal amount of gasoline, the O<sub>2</sub> sensor would indicate a rich condition and set off the "check engine" light.

Also, pull out a couple of spark plugs and look at the color. If the spark plug is a dry black color, the engine is rich. If the color is eggshell brown, the fuel mixture is good.

My suggestion is to have the shop road-test the truck with the

scan tool connected and monitor all sensors.

Dear Doctor: I purchased a 1985 Mercury Grand Marquis with 162,000 miles. The oil light would come on when the engine was hot at an idle. I had the engine rebuilt at 232,000 miles. There is a slight engine knock and it still seems to be lacking power. What do you suggest? Dave

Dear Dave: Did the shop mechanic check for back pressure in the blocked catalytic converter is very common on older vehicles (both six- and eight-cylinder engines).

In fact, at my shop I've seen catalytic converters on various makes of vehicles fail under the new emission program, and show a loss of power.

Dear Doctor: I own a 1990 Lincoln Mark VII with only 47,000 miles. The trip-meter (distance to empty) will sound the alarm when there is still plenty of gasoline in the tank. The mechanical gauge reads fine. The self-test did not diagnose any problems. What do you think? John

Dear John: I have seen this same problem many times. Each time it has been a faulty fuel tank sending unit. You can have the repair shop follow the trouble chart to verify the problem.

Send questions to: Auto Doctor, 3 Court Circle, Lakeville, MA 02347.

## Drive off to summer festivals

If you prefer your vacation a little less crowded, yet equally redolent of heritage and history, I have an alternate to offer you: Take in a festival.

Chances are there's a festival to fit your fancy somewhere near your home, or near a place you'd like to visit anyway. Organize your vacation trip around the event. Or if you have a destination already locked in, maybe you can find a festival happening there or along the route.

Maybe you've seen those hand-lettered banners hanging across streets of small towns you've passed through. (Assuming you get off the interstates now and then.) The banners herald a local berry festival or costumed-pet contest or marching band competition. Your interest is piqued, but the dates are all wrong: next week, next month — or yesterday. Catching local events and regional festivals is a chancy matter.

But now, we have the Internet to come to the rescue. You can go online and discover the time and location of any festival you can imagine, and some you can't.

Enter a subject and chances are there are festivals celebrating that subject somewhere. Make that date and time a tent peg of your trip. Find other festivals to string to-

gether, or just draw a path to one on lesser highways and flesh out the route with visits to local historical museums and other prideful points of interest along the way.

One site that seems to have it all: [www.festival.com](http://www.festival.com). Here are some festival samplings that intrigued me.

I would like to find myself, for instance, at "Verandah Concerts and Ice Cream Socials" in Fremont, Ohio. The very words "ice cream socials" evoke memories of my childhood summers — a chance happening at a small town church with tables on the lawn, children running about and good ladies scooping a quick-to-melt creamy delight into mismatched bowls. Perhaps front porches and yards strung with paper lanterns, where more sweet treats are spooned out, such as hand-cranked ice cream with fresh-sliced berries.

Or, on the other side of the country "Chocolate and Coffee Lovers Festival" in Seaside, Ore.

Garlic festivals abound. Most famous is the one in Gilroy, but garlic is also honored in Delray Beach, Fla.; Chehalis, Wash.; and Saugerties, N.Y.

I found "Cow Appreciation Day" in Woodstock, Vt., but then that charming little town also celebrates



DENISE MCCLUGGAGE  
Linda S. Sato

"Wool Day," "Pumpkin Day" and an event called "All About Apples." Woodstock is a festival-oriented town.

In searching for festivals, be careful what search words you use; it can make all the difference. For instance, I found no hits for "Old Cars" but several for "Old Car." And none for "Elvis Presley" but a couple for "Elvis." I caught nothing with "gooseberry," "Mark Twain," "barbed wire," "James Dean," "Walt Whitman," or "turquoise." But there is a treasure trove for "vintage" things.

"Fiddlers" are frequent festival subjects, too.

Maybe festival organizers should be more general when they name a festival, to include all kinds of possibilities that would suit search engines: I suggest "Festival of Barbecue, Barbed Wire and Blues, Cowboy Poetry, and Old Trucks Ice Cream Socials."

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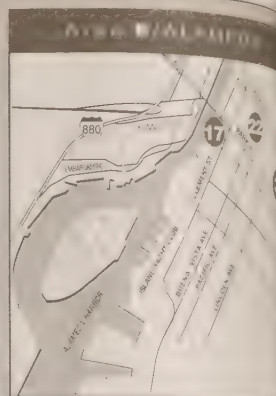
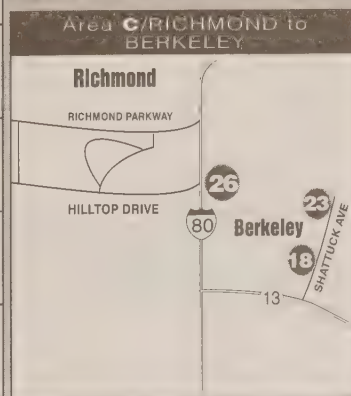
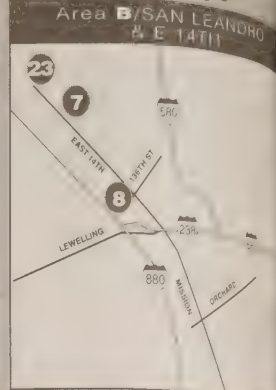
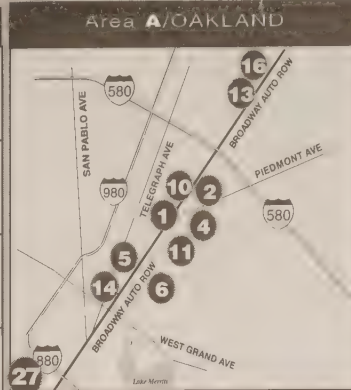
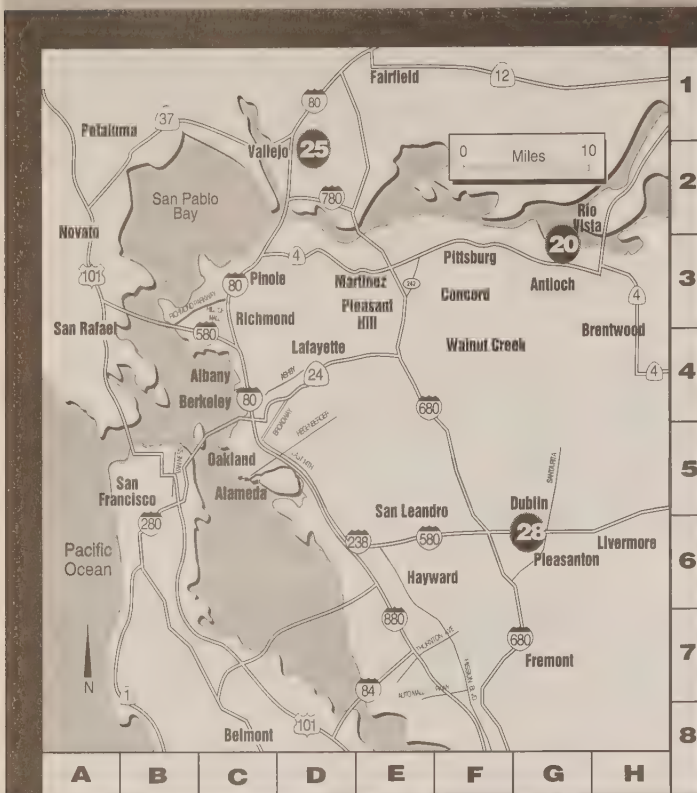
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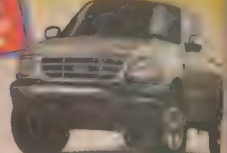


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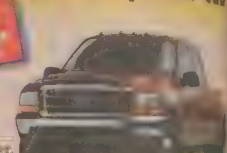


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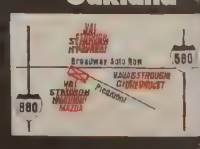
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In this highly visible role you will foster business relationships with loan brokers, account executives and department staff. You will be responsible for resolving condition issues and negotiating successful loan closings. To qualify you must be an adept communicator with exceptional sales skills and knowledge of residential real estate lending. Proficiency with computers and data entry is also required.

We offer a competitive compensation package, including life, health, dental, vision and 401(k). For immediate consideration, send your resume to: FREMONT INVESTMENT & LOAN, Attn: John Herring, 2033 N. Main St., Ste. 400, Walnut Creek, CA 94596. Fax: (925) 979-0468. EOE

**Fremont Investment & Loan**

WHEN YOU NEED TO SELL IT NOW CLASSIFIED

## 250 Help Wanted

**LOAN**  
**Senior Loan Processor**  
First Horizon Bank, stable growing co. with great opportunities seeking Senior Loan Processors with 3 yrs. exp. in FHA/VA Gov. loans. Pleasanton office. Compet. sal. & avail. bnf's. Fax resume (650) 860-6401

**LOANS**  
Fieldstone Mortgage Company, a National Subprime lender, is looking for the following positions for our Concord branch:  
**Underwriter, Acct. Mgr. & Loan Set-Up (entry-level)**  
Fieldstone offers a competitive salary + bonus, full benefits & 401K. Pls. Fax resume to Tamara Henry at 949-794-9845

**LOANS/MORTGAGE**  
**Loan officer posit. avail.**  
Aggressive comm. splits. Loan Processor posit. Sal. and bonus + bnf's. Receipt posit. avail. Entry-level typing & phone skills req. Professional c/c. emdron. In W.C. Established in Mortgage Industry for 15 yrs. Fax resume 925-938-9131

**LOANS**  
**Oakmont Mortgage**  
Oakmont Mortgage is a Nationwide Subprime lender has an opening for an aggressive, experienced subprime Account Executive in Contra Costa County. Greatest support team in the industry. Number One Branch in the Country. Join the Oakmont team today! Fax resume 408-626-1615. Darla Rowe, Regional Manager, EOE

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## 250 Help Wanted

**LOANS**  
**SR. LOAN PROCESSOR**

Year after year, financial experts across the country continue to praise the quality of our financial products and service. In fact, Fortune Magazine has named us America's Most Admired Savings Institution in an unprecedented seven times.

World Savings is seeking a highly motivated and enthusiastic Senior Loan Processor to join our Walnut Creek office. Candidate will have excellent customer service and organizational skills, and the ability to prioritize work. Some computer knowledge and sales experience preferred.

World offers great training programs, excellent benefits, growth potential, competitive salary and a positive work environment. To apply, please send your resume to: World Savings, Attention: Human Resources (SLHR), 794 Deane Street, San Leandro, CA 94577. email: western44@worldsavings.com or fax to: (510) 297-7904. Reference # SO-9957. Check out our website at: www.worldsavings.com

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## 250 Help Wanted

**LOANS**  
**Subprime Underwriter**

North American Mortgage Company, continuing its aggressive expansion in its subprime division in Concord, seeks a seasoned underwriter with at least 3 years of experience underwriting subprime loans in a pre-approval flow delivery platform. Responsibilities include underwriting, subprime credit transactions and generating credit quality and profitable assets.

The successful candidate will have gained their credit skills from work experience with a regional or national subprime organization.

Please fax resume to North American Mortgage Company, Attn: Jean Griffin, at (925) 681-2316 EOE

**North American Mortgage Company A DIME Company**

**UNDERWRITER I**  
Wholesale mortgage underwriter with 3+ years exp. in a fast-paced environment with great customer service skills and a strong financial background to fill a position in our Pleasant Hill, California office. Excellent opportunity for a processor looking to advance.

**DE UNDERWRITER**  
Current DE experience with minimum 3 yrs underwriting experience. Strong customer service and data entry skills a must. We offer a competitive salary and benefits with an opportunity to grow in the mortgage lending field.

## UNDERWRITING ASSTS.

**Junior Underwriters**  
Excel. customer service and data entry skills req'd. Automated underwriting (DULP) experience helpful. Competitive salary and benefits.

**MORTGAGE QC Prefunder**  
Seeking qualified candidate to work in our Pleasant Hill, California office performing pre-audits on mortgage loans. Thorough knowledge of Fannie/Freddie guidelines helpful. Good organizational and customer service skills a must.

All Positions are in our Pleasant Hill, CA. Office. Send resume & salary requirements to: WashTenaw Mortgage Co., HR Dept., 315 E. Esplanade, Ste. 12, Ann Arbor, MI 48108 or Fax to: 734-662-9517. www.washTenawmortgage.com

**MACHINIST CNC program**  
set up, Lathe, Mill, Excel sal. & bnf's. Benicia loc. Call 707-475-9520

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**MAINTENANCE - Building**  
FT position, Mon-Fri. Electrical, plumbing, carpentry exp. req'd. Comp. sal. bnf's. D Apply in person 3112 N. Civic Dr., Walnut Creek, CA 94596. Fax or fax 925-947-2623

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Looking for a work environment that offers both a challenging opportunity and personal growth and development?

GWF Power Systems, an independent power producer, generates electricity using fluid bed combustion technology and gas turbine technology in its various power plants located in the Bay Area, Tracy, and Hanford. GWF is currently developing new projects to contribute to the solution of California's critical energy needs.

We are seeking experienced mechanics to work in our Bay Area and Tracy facilities. Positions require demonstrated experience in predictive and preventive maintenance, as well as repairing and rebuilding rotating equipment (including pumps, fans, blowers, turbines, and generators), equipment alignment, and use of precision tools. Experience with gas turbines (LM 6000s and GE Frame) is highly desirable.

Knowledge of lubrication oil and vibration analysis and experience in use of high-technology tools is a plus.

Demonstrated maintenance problem-solving skills, strong interpersonal skills, and computer literacy are required. Technical knowledge of power boilers and turbine generators is required.

GWF offers an opportunity to work with state-of-the-art technology in a future-oriented environment. A competitive salary and benefits package complements this opportunity. Qualified candidates should send resumes with cover letter, describing how your background meets our described needs, to:

**GWF Power Systems**  
Attn: Human Resources  
4300 Railroad Avenue, Pittsburg, CA 94565  
Fax: 925-431-0515  
E-mail: jlgleson@gwfpower.com  
No phone calls, please

**GWF POWER SYSTEMS COMPANY, INC.**  
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## 250 Help Wanted

**Maintenance Helper**  
Full time position 40-hour wk. Exp. in trucks & trailers w/ exp. in person to Ico Systems 1315 Main Street, Oakley

**Maintenance Park Aide**  
FT seasonal positions avail 9/32/01. Call Jack Cameron 925/837-6819

**MAINTENANCE & RV Repair/General Handy Person.** Call Paula RV center 925-228-4900

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Amerigas, a nationwide LP gas company, is looking for an extremely competent, enthusiastic, and team-oriented individual who demonstrates strong mgmt. & leadership capabilities.

• Min. 3-5 yrs. managerial exp., preferably in LP gas business  
• Strong sales/customer svc. bgnd. & ability to create/encourage a team spirit environment  
• Must have all commercial endorsements  
• Competitive salary and benefits pkg.

Forward resume to: 4051 Port Chicago Hwy., Concord, CA 94520. Attn: Jeff

**MANAGEMENT**  
Gen. Mgr. Lp. C.C. Co. HOA seeking qualified on-site manager. Competitive sal. & bnf's. Fax resume 925/866-8906 or email: ccc@ccal.com

## 250 Help Wanted

**MANAGEMENT TRAINEE**  
New Offices Opening Independent Capital Mgmt., Inc. (ICM) one of the nation's Premier & Fastest Growing financial services cos. (NASDAQ: SIPC) offering securities through SUNdria Securities Inc. (NASDAQ: SIPC) announces immediate openings in our Bay Area Office. We're looking for career oriented individuals in search of rapid advancement & complete training in the investment field with industry leader. Top Payoffs, medical benefits, 401K match, conferences, stock options. Call Monday 800-400-2620 www.icmfinancial.com

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**MECHANIC** Avail. immed. FT. exp'd. pd. pay. Concord. Call 925-209-5038 or eves. call 685-2629

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Tire exp. tools, clean DMV. Call (925) 708-2811

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**MARKETING**  
Villa San Ramon an elegant Senior Retirement Community located in San Ramon. Marketing Asst. has a unique opportunity for a Move-In Coordinator. You will have excel. comm. skills, detail oriented, computer writing & computer skills. Our team member a team org. & enjoys working with seniors. Industry exp. req'd. Call (925) 933-9100 or fax resume 925-803-9103

**MEDICAL ASSISTANT**  
Lg. Imaging Co. has FT opening in Walnut Creek. Back office assistance room patients, develop film, bnf's. Incl 401K. Fax resume 925-947-6607. Antioch

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Exp. FT back ofc. Busy Lf. OB/GYN. Fax 925/284-8115

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We offer a competitive salary and benefits, including medical, dental and vision.

For consideration please send your resume to: **HCR ManorCare Health Services**  
Attn: Human Resources  
1226 Rossmore Pkwy., Walnut Creek, CA 94595  
Fax #: 925/937-1132

**ManorCare Health Services**  
EOE

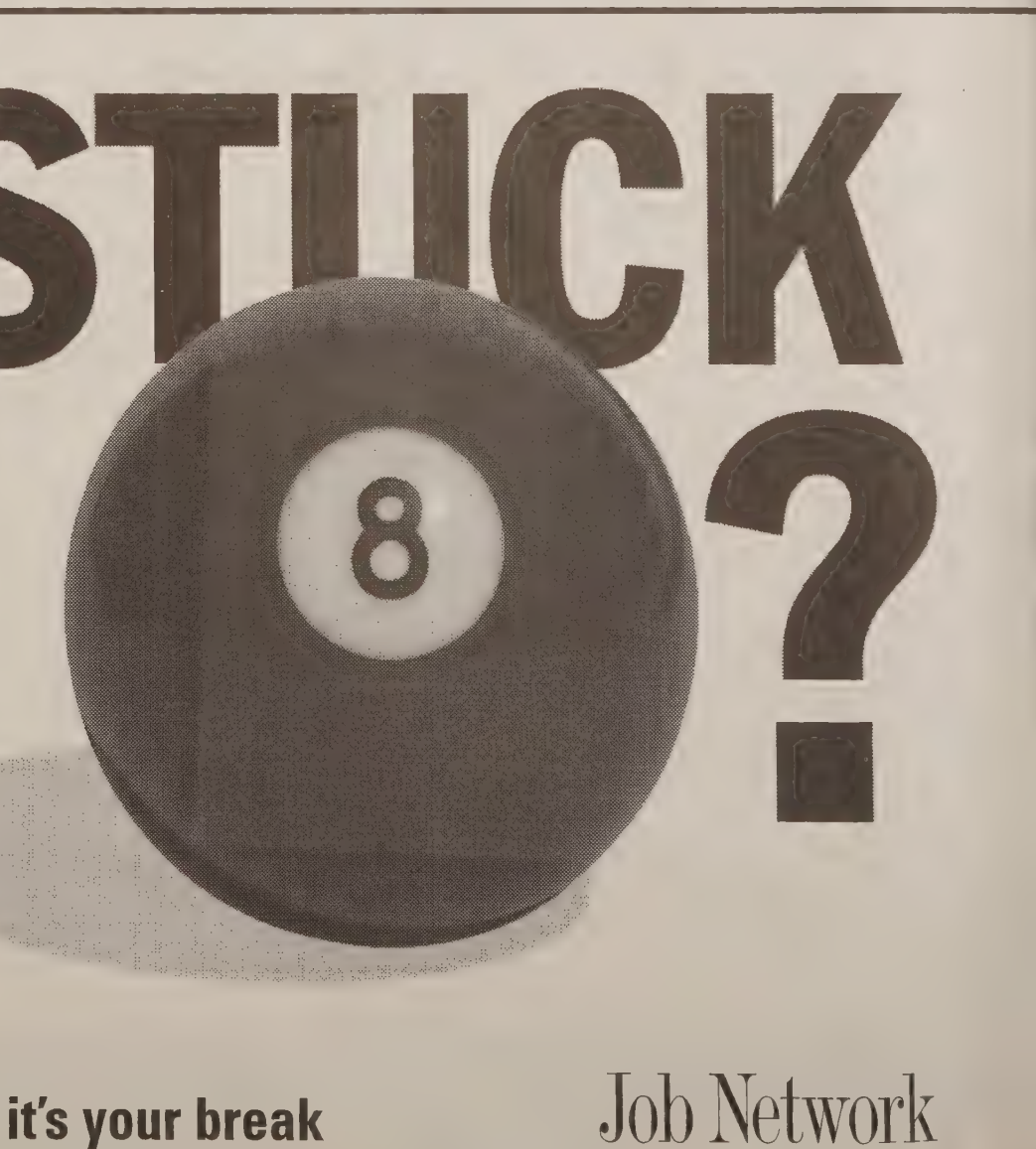
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- Administrators (75K-210K)
- CFOs (125K-375K)
- Controllers (80K-140K)
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Visit [www.managementjobs.com](http://www.managementjobs.com) to review openings or fax resume to 1-888-559-0863. America's JOB Network, San Ramon, CA 94583.

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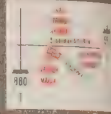
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**2001 Camaro****20  
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In Stock!****\$14,995**  
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- Automatic
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Tahoes  
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2WD • 4WD**\$23,995**  
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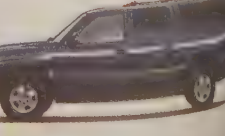
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- 4WD
- Leather
- Power Seats
- Bucket Seats w/Leather Trim
- 5300 Vortec V8 Eng.

**2002 Avalanche****10  
Avalanches  
In Stock!****\$29,995**  
fromMSRP \$35,080  
College Grad \$1,000  
Val Strough Discount \$4,085  
Net Price \$29,995

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- Automatic
- AM/FM/CD w/9 Speakers & Subwoofer
- Remote Keyless Entry
- Front & Rear Air
- Rear Heater
- Power Windows
- Aluminum Wheels

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Suburbans  
In Stock!**  
2WD • 4WD**\$29,995**  
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July 20, 2001

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## Cherry good for you

Research reveals the healing fruit

CHERRY MARKETING INSTITUTE

Cherries have pleased the palates of food lovers for centuries. Now there are new reasons to love cherries. As a new article said "The day when doctors say, 'take 10 cherries and call me in the morning,' may not be far off."

According to ongoing research, cherries are a rich source of antioxidants that can help fight cancer and heart disease. In addition, they contain compounds that help relieve the pain of arthritis, gout and even headaches.

The secret is in the pigments that give cherries their rich red color. They belong to a class of natural dyes called anthocyanins. These compounds are being called "Mother Nature's all-natural chemotherapy agents."

In addition to the antioxidants, cherries are rich in two important flavonoids — isoquercitrin and queritrin. According to ongoing researchers, queritrin is one of the most potent anti-inflammatory agents ever discovered. Consuming it in foods, such as cherries, is like unleashing inside your body an entire army of natural defense agents who are adept at neutralizing cancer-causing agents.

### Low fat cherry recipes

**Power Bars**  
Makes 32 bars  
Calories per bar: 145  
Total fat per bar: 4.7 grams; 0 mg cholesterol  
Percent calories from fat: 29 percent

1/2 cup margarine  
1/2 cups firmly packed brown sugar  
1/2 cups all-purpose flour  
1/2 cups old-fashioned or quick-cooking oats, uncooked  
1/2 teaspoons baking soda  
1 can (21 ounces) cherry filling and topping  
1/2 cups granulated sugar  
1/2 cup cornstarch  
1/2 teaspoon almond extract

Melt butter and brown sugar in a large mixing bowl. Beat with electric mixer on medium speed 3 to 4 minutes, or until well mixed. Combine flour, oats and baking soda. Add flour mixture to sugar mixture; beat on low speed until crumbly.

See CHERRIES, Page 2

TART CHERRIES on the tree before being harvested at the Donaldson Fruit Farm outside of Ortonna, Pa.



PAT LITTLE/AR

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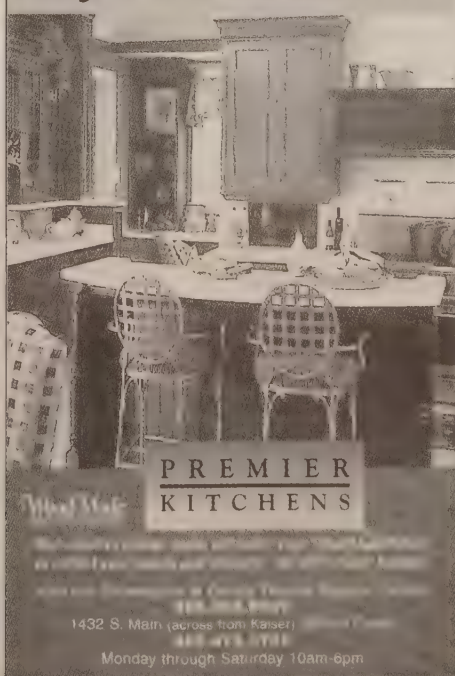
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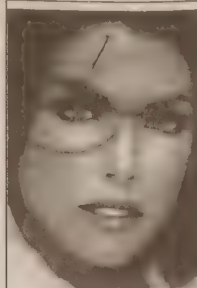
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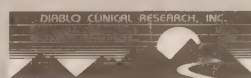


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# Cherries outnumbered by ideas for using them

KNIGHT RIDDER NEWSPAPERS

At a very young age, my parents told me about this dude who took an ax, went out in the backyard and hacked down a cherry tree.

The lesson, I suppose, was something about truth-telling. But I missed that part. I was too busy worrying about what happened to all those plump cherries on the tree.

Back then, my biggest achievement with cherries was popping them in my mouth without swallowing the pits (because if I did, of course, a tree would grow in my stomach).

I would always eat so many cherries I would soon have a belly-ache, making me worry that I had missed a seed — and it was beginning to take root.

Today, cherries have taken root in my kitchen — I run out of fruit before I run out of ideas.

I am seeing more and more of the Rainier and Royal Ann cherries, which are light yellow with a splash of red. These cherries are sweet cherries and like Bings — my favorite — can brighten just about any

dessert or savory dish. There are also sour cherries, which are best reserved for preserves. Either can work in pies: With a big scoop of vanilla ice cream melting down the sides of a warm slice, and a tall glass of cold milk, cherry pie is summer magic.

The Latin name, *Prunus avium*, means "for the birds" (luckily they share with humans), and is a reminder that the cherry is one of the oldest cultivated fruits. All cherries are stonefruit, meaning (like peaches and plums) there is pit in the center.

At the restaurant, I use Bing cherries for a popular dessert called bomboloni — a small and rustic flaky pastry, served with a dollop of fresh cream.

Another dish that appears in summer is creamy risotto with an additively sweet-and-sour topping of Bing cherries roasted in balsamic vinegar.

The biggest challenge of the cherry for me today is no longer the pit, but deciding on whether to go sweet or savory.

So, I often do both. An easy

dessert is cherry cobbler or clafoutis (a baked cherry custard), and the savory dish I crave most is scalloppini of pork loin with cherry sauce. This is such a comforting plate and so simple to make, I find myself making it again and again.

For two people, I start with four fillets of boneless pork loin, about three-quarters of a pound in all. I pound the fillets out with the flat side of a mallet until they are about 1/4-inch thick, transfer them to the refrigerator, and attack my cherry sauce.

I pit a large handful of cherries, double-checking to make sure I remove all of the pits (I'm no longer worried about stomach-trees, I just don't want anyone breaking a tooth). Then, over medium-high heat, I coat a medium saute pan with olive oil. Once hot, I add my cherries and lower the heat to medium. I roll the cherries in the pan for a couple minutes, until they begin to brown lightly and plump up, then I pour in a glass of port (or grape juice) and let it reduce until it's almost dry.

Next, I add about a cup of dark

stock, preferably roasted chicken (if you haven't got your own stock, try buying some fresh at Whole Foods, Andronico's or other specialty food stores.) I reduce the stock by half or until it coats the back of a spoon.

I then season the sauce with kosher salt and a small amount of cracked black pepper. I never season a sauce until it's reduced the way I like it, because as a sauce thickens, its flavors concentrate — what might taste fine in the beginning could be a salty mess by the end.

For the pork, I heat a large saute pan over medium-high heat and add a thin layer of olive oil. I dust the pork scalloppini with flour mixed with salt and pepper, shake off the excess and place it in the hot oil (you can cook it in two batches if your pan isn't big enough). The pork is thin and only needs a minute or so on each side to cook. Once I pull the pork from the oil, I put it on paper towels to drain any excess oil and sprinkle on a little kosher salt to give it a flavor boost. I then reheat the cherry sauce

and finish it with a cube of cold butter (cold butter helps bind and give a sheen to the sauce). To serve the pork, I place a mound of mashed potatoes (roasted potatoes are scrumptious, too) on a warm plate, overlap the pieces of pork on top, and spoon the shimmering cherry sauce over that. This is fine eats for sure.

As my uncle George West said, "Life is like a bowl of cherries—there are some that are sour, but for the most part, it's sweet and delicious." So, pass the bowl!

Cat Cora is the executive editor of Postmedia in Lafayette. She can be reached at catcora@postmedia.com.

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# SUMMERTIME IS BERRY TIME

BY LINDA BEAULIEU  
JOHNSON & WALES UNIVERSITY  
FOR AN WEEKLY FEATURES  
PROVIDENCE, R.I. — It's a berry  
time of year.  
It's that time of year when  
everything is coming out strawber-  
ries, raspberries, blueberries, "chef  
Wollenberg said as he  
prepared a variety of dishes utiliz-  
ing this season's berry crop.

He described this year's crop as  
"awesome."

Wollenberg teaches baking and  
pastry arts at Johnson & Wales Uni-  
versity.

He offered some basic tips dur-  
ing his recent cooking demon-  
stration featuring strawberry short-  
cake, fresh assorted berry fruit tart,  
exotic berries with zabaglione  
glasatto, raspberry fool, and straw-

berry and chocolate fondue:

■ When making strawberry  
shortcake, use butter instead of  
shortening for a biscuit with better  
flavor. This also results in a batter  
that can be spooned onto a baking  
sheet.

"It doesn't get much easier than  
that," the chef said.

In preparing the strawberries for  
the shortcake, slice the berries a

day ahead and toss them with  
sugar to macerate the fruit. Then  
add freshly sliced strawberries to  
the mixture just before making the  
strawberry shortcake for added tex-  
ture.

■ When making a fresh berry  
tart, the chef suggests taking care

of two tasks at one time by toast-  
ing the silvered almonds in the tart  
shell that needs to be prebaked.

■ When a recipe calls for using  
a propane blow torch to brown the  
surface of a creme brulee, a  
meringue pie or Wollenberg's recipe  
for zabaglione, you don't need to

run out to the hardware store.  
Desserts can be easily browned by  
placing them under the oven's  
broiler for a short time. (Keep a  
watchful eye to make sure you don't  
burn the items.)

See BERRY, Page 6

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## Berry

FROM PAGE 5

### Strawberry Shortcake For biscuits:

- 1 3/4 cups all-purpose flour
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 3 tablespoons baking powder
- 4 to 6 tablespoons butter
- 1 cup milk

Preheat oven to 425 F. Sift the dry ingredients together. Cut in butter with a fork until mixture resembles a coarse corn meal.

Add milk and mix until just incorporated; do not over mix. Spoon about 2 tablespoons per biscuit onto a greased cookie pan and bake 20-25 minutes until lightly golden.

### For Chantilly Cream:

- 1 cup heavy whipping cream, cold
- 2 to 3 tablespoons granulated sugar
- Vanilla extract, to taste

Combine all ingredients and whip until a firm peak is achieved. Reserve in refrigerator.

### For strawberries:

- 1 pint fresh strawberries
- 1/2 cup granulated sugar, more or less to desired taste

Thoroughly wash strawberries and drain well. Slice into 1/4-inch thick slices. Toss with desired

amount of sugar. This may be done a day ahead of time.

Split and place a biscuit on a dessert plate. Top generously with strawberries and syrup from the strawberries. Top with a dollop of Chantilly Cream.

Serves 4 to 6.

### Fresh Assorted Berry Fruit Tart

Dough cookie crust:

- 1 pound butter
- 1 cup granulated sugar
- 1 whole egg
- 3 1/2 cups cake flour

In a bowl, cream together the butter and sugar until light and fluffy. Add egg and blend in thoroughly. Add flour and mix until thoroughly incorporated.

Spread dough in 8-inch tart pan. Chill until needed. When ready, preheat oven to 375 F. Bake for 10-15 minutes until golden brown. Cool and remove tart shell from pan before filling.

### Pastry cream:

- 2 cups milk
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1 pinch salt
- 3 tablespoons cornstarch
- 1 1/2 teaspoons cake flour
- 2 egg yolks
- 1 whole egg
- Vanilla, to taste
- 2 tablespoons butter

Melted chocolate, as needed  
Apricot glaze or jelly, as needed  
Toasted slivered almonds, as needed

2 1/2 cups of fresh berries (or slices of mandarin oranges or kiwi)

Place 1 1/2 cups of milk in a heavy sauce pan with 1/4 cup sugar and bring to a boil. In a bowl, mix together the salt, cornstarch, flour and the remaining sugar. Slowly whisk in remaining milk. Add the eggs and mix until very smooth. Warm the egg mixture with boiled milk and return to sauce pan.

Bring back to a boil while whisking and scraping the pan with a rubber spatula to prevent scorching. Remove from the heat; stir in the vanilla and butter. Cool; refrigerate until needed (avoid skinning of the surface by covering with plastic wrap). When ready for use, whip vigorously until creamy.

Fill the tart shell with the pastry cream about 1/2-inch deep; brush shell lightly with melted chocolate to prevent crust from softening. Top with fresh fruit, creating rows around the tart starting from the outside and working toward the middle until completely topped. Brush fruit and sides of tart with apricot glaze or jelly that has been heated to a liquid state. Coat outside of tart with toasted almonds by pressing nuts

into shell using your fingers.

Portion with a serrated knife, saving gently to preserve the fruit arrangement. Serves 8 to 10.

### Exotic Berries with Zabaglione Glasato

- 1/2 cup egg yolks, approximately 6-8 yolks
- 2 tablespoons granulated sugar
- 1/2 cup Marsala wine
- 2 pints of berries

Place egg yolks and sugar in top bowl of double boiler. (A bowl over pot of steamed water also will work.) Whip constantly over medium-high heat to form a thick fluffy mixture. Slowly add wine and continue whipping to a ribbon-like thickness; be careful not to cook the mixture on the sides of the bowl.

Use warm or refrigerate. Place fresh berries of your choice in a casserole dish and top with zabaglione; place under a broiler to brown. Serve warm — with cookies, if desired.

Makes 4 servings.

### Raspberry Fool

- 1 pint fresh raspberries
- Confectioners sugar, to taste
- 1 cup whipped cream
- Kirsch, Madeira or Port wine, to taste

Prepare fresh raspberries by pureeing in food processor or blender and straining off seeds

through cheesecloth. Sweeten to taste with confectioners sugar. Fold in equal amounts of whipped cream flavored with Kirsch, Madeira or Port wine.

Serve with crumbled macaroons or ladyfingers, if desired. Serves 4 to 6.

### Strawberry and Chocolate Fondue

**Dark chocolate fondue dip:**

- 1 pint heavy cream
- 1 pound semisweet chocolate

**White chocolate fondue dip:**

- 12 ounces heavy cream

1 pound white chocolate  
2 pints berries  
Half of pineapple or melon for dipping

For each dip, bring cream to a boil. Add chocolate and stir until smooth. Place on skewers, dip into fondue pan or warmer. Wash fresh strawberries well. Place on skewers, dip into face-down pineapple or melon. Dip strawberries in fondue.

Yields 2 pounds of dip for approximately 6-8 servings.

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